

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND  
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No. 1866.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1852.

## REVIEWS.

*Lives of the Queens of Scotland, and English Princesses connected with the Regal Succession of Great Britain.* Vol. III., *Mary Stuart.* By Agnes Strickland. Blackwood and Sons.

MARY, Queen of Scots, has been called by one of her French biographers "the eternal enigma of history." Of all historical personages, her character has been presented in the most opposing aspects, and has given rise to the keenest controversy. These differences have not related to the facts either of her life or her reign, so much as to the moral influences mixed up with the actual events of history. The temptations to partiality to which all biographers are exposed, have been here heightened by the political and religious questions of the time in which she lived. On this account the statements of her character have rather resembled the pleadings and counter-pleadings in a court of law, than the calm narrations of historical truth. We have looked with much curiosity for Miss Strickland's story of her life and estimate of her character. Besides her great experience in regal biographies, there was the novelty of the subject being treated by a female author of high distinction. She has also had advantages for the work beyond all her predecessors. In addition to the materials found in English literature and in our own national archives, the researches of foreign authors have brought many details to light which were unknown to the great historians who have written her life. In the 'Histoire de Marie Stuart,' just referred to, by M. Dargaud, the 'Recueil des Lettres de Marie Stuart,' by Prince Labanoff, and the still more recent history by M. Mignet, who had access to Spanish documents hitherto unpublished, a mass of new and important materials has been presented to the historian. Miss Strickland is well aware of the advantages with which she undertakes her work; for she remarks that, "numerous as are the publications connected with Mary Stuart, no correct biography of her could be written in the absence of those documents which furnish the most interesting portion of the materials, as well as the most important."

An authentic, if not altogether impartial, history of Mary might therefore have been expected from the biographer of the Queens of Scotland. But from the very first page of this volume in which her life is commenced, it is plain that Miss Strickland is about to write a romantic panegyric, not an impartial narrative. She justly observes that "Mary Stuart cannot be described by argumentative essays, she must be portrayed by facts," and with strange inconsistency commences her volume with an elaborate essay, by which she hopes to prepare the reader for receiving the facts to be afterwards recorded. Some of her authorities are studiously given, but those by which her argument might be weakened are kept in the background; and M. Mignet's book, which at the time of its appearance we stated to be one "which must convince the judgment of the historical student" ('L. G.', 1851, pp. 587, 623), is never once mentioned. We might complacently overlook some degree of sentimental partiality in Miss Strickland; but the studied arguments with which she opens her biography involve questions affect-

ing the principles of historical writing, and demand critical notice.

"Mary is either innocent or guilty. If guilty, why should she be an object of tender and romantic interest to any one? If innocent, ought not the just and good to wish to see innocence established, and the falsehood of her self-interested accusers made manifest?"

Such is the broad and decisive way in which Miss Strickland puts the case. Her heroine must be either spotlessly white or damnably black. She must not be judged according to common estimates of human nature, looking for some good in the worst of characters, and some evil even in the best. Mary Stuart must either be guilty or innocent; meaning thereby, guilty or innocent not in the general summing up of her whole virtues and faults together, but in every particular act of her whole life. Miss Strickland says that if the question had to be decided by any jury of her own sex she would be certain of acquittal. However this may be, most certain are we, that if the same facts were put before the same jury in any case of daily life, the judgment would be the reverse. And we think so for the very reasons which the author urges for the competency of such a tribunal:—"The moral standard erected by women is not lower than that required of them by men; and they are not less acute in their perceptions of right and wrong, and more disposed to tolerate frailties." But there is great difference between judging a living woman and an historical queen. Neither do we think that Miss Strickland can have such innocent ignorance of the world as to ask how Mary, if guilty, can be an object of romantic interest to any one. Beauty and misfortune are apt to extenuate guilt even in those around us, far more at three centuries' distance, and in a character like that of the Queen of the Scots. No candid reader who has seen the evidence as adduced by M. Mignet can doubt the guilt of Mary Stuart in the matter of Darnley and Bothwell; nor will any generous reader refrain from apologetic pity even when convinced of her criminality. Miss Strickland says that it is "inconsistent with Christian morals" to acknowledge her guilt, and in the same breath to make allowance on the score of "the errors of her French education, the levity of youth, the misfortune of being linked to an ill-conditioned boy-husband, the frailty of human nature, and the infatuation of a resistless passion for a bad man." So far from this, it is only on grounds of true Christian ethics that such defences can be made. It may surprise Miss Strickland when we avow our own regard for Mary as almost as great a saint and martyr as she would describe her. But we arrive at that conclusion without requiring any falsification of the facts of history. We judge according to the principles of Christian morality and the precepts of the gospel, by which we are taught that a life which may have been blotted by great faults may yet be far better in the Divine sight than one of mere respectable Pharisaism. If no guilty deeds can be brought home to Queen Elizabeth herself, she never displayed the penitence, and piety, and noble virtues of her unfortunate prisoner. By this higher system of evangelical ethics, we may give generous judgment regarding the character of Mary on the whole, without being asked to acquit her of blame in every action of her life. Miss Strickland has taken a different and untenable line of defence; and instead of an effective appeal to the principles of human

nature and of Christian morality, she seeks to mystify truth, and to meet plain facts with violent language. In what temper she proceeds to her narrative may be gathered from the closing sentence of her prefatory argument:—

"When the colourings of self-interested falsehood are adopted by unreasoning credulity, prejudice, or ignorance, Mary appears a strange anomaly, as discrepant with herself as a dove with the ensanguined talons of a vulture, or a fair sheet of paper written with goodly sentences, in the midst of which some coarse hand has interpolated foul words of sin and shame, which bear no analogy either to the beginning or the end."

As the present volume brings the history only down to the beginning of Mary's reign in Scotland, and does not include the passages in her life which have been most discussed, we forbear from entering further into the controversy at present. But if the following volume is written in the same spirit as the introductory remarks of that now before us, it will be necessary to point out the real state of the historical foundation on which the author's statements rest. The facts of the case are so plain, that they cannot be concealed by a writer even of Miss Strickland's skill and popularity; nor will she act wisely if she allows her zeal as an advocate to bring discredit on her fidelity as a historian.

About the early part of Mary's life and reign there is little room for controversy; and the picture, as far as Miss Strickland has drawn it, is the most lifelike of any we have yet seen. The story of her birth, her education in France, her marriage with the Dauphin, her return as a young widow to reign in Scotland, is so well known, and has been so often told, that there is no need of referring to the substance of the present narrative, but only of noticing some points in which the peculiarities of the new biographer appear. Miss Strickland gives details on many points of Mary's personal and domestic life which historians have hitherto passed over as of trifling importance. Some of these only a female writer would be likely to refer to. For instance, after remarking that "the costume of a maiden monarch on her bridal-day must always be a matter of interest to the feminine portion of readers," she gives a long account of that of Mary Stuart at her marriage to the heir of France, "which has never before been described in any of her numerous histories:—

"Her regal mantle and train were of a bluish grey cut velvet, richly embroidered with white silk and pearls. It was of a marvellous length, full six toises, covered with precious stones, and was supported by young ladies. Her Scotch Maides, doubtless, were entitled to that honour; but neither they, nor the commissioners for the marriage, who were present as representatives of the three Estates of Scotland, are mentioned in our contemporary French authorities. The Estates of Scotland had positively refused to allow their regalia to be carried over to France, to decorate their young liege Lady and her consort at the nuptial solemnity. Yet Mary, to denote her rank as a Sovereign Queen, wore a crown royal on this occasion—a crown far more costly than any previous Scottish monarch could ever boast. It was probably made expressly for her, at the expense either of the King of France or her wealthy uncle the Cardinal de Lorraine, and is described in the Rouen contemporary record of the ceremonial as being composed of the finest gold, and most exquisite workmanship, set with diamonds, pearls, rubies, and emeralds of inestimable worth—having in the centre a pendant carbuncle, the value of which was computed at five hundred thousand crowns. About



her neck hung a matchless jewel, suspended by chains of precious stones, which, from its description, must have been no other than that well known in Scottish records by the familiar name of the *Great Harry*. This was not one of the crown jewels, but her own personal property, having been derived from her royal English great-grandfather, Henry VII., by whom it was presented to her grandmother, Queen Margaret Tudor."

Of her domestic life when she first went to Scotland, this picture is given:—

"Mary lived in an atmosphere of elegance as regarded her personal habits. She ate moderately, but she liked her table to be trimly set and daintily served. Her board cloths and napkins were of the finest quality, fringed and embroidered with bullion and coloured silks—a queenly fashion, which gave employment to female hands. She introduced the fashion of having the claws and beaks of the roasted partridges and moorfowl, that were served at her table, silvered and gilt. She rose early in the morning, and transacted much business while walking in the garden. On horticulture she bestowed great attention, and introduced exotic fruits, flowers, and vegetables into the gardens of her country palaces, rarely visiting a strange place without planting a tree with her own hands. These were long pointed out, and consecrated by tradition as memorials of her. She was fond of pets of every kind, especially dogs and birds; but she doated on children. She loved her attendant ladies, and treated them with the greatest indulgence. No instance of ill-nature, envy, or tyranny towards her own sex has ever been recorded of Mary, but, on the contrary, her privy-purse expenses and private letters abound with characteristic traits of her benevolence and generosity."

A more interesting passage refers to her appearance and employment when presiding at the national councils. It would seem strange now-a-days if Queen Victoria were to bring to the Council Chamber her wool-work or her sketch-book.

"Mary sat daily in council several hours, in earnest deliberation with her ministers and advisers; but, while thus occupied, she employed her hands with her needle—a little table of sandalwood, with her work-basket and implements of industry, being always placed by her chair of state. Every rightly constituted mind must appreciate this characteristic trait of feminine propriety in a young female Sovereign, whom duty compelled to take the presiding place in a male assembly. It was necessary for her to listen with profound attention to the opinions of every one, and to deliver her own; but, instead of allowing her native modesty to assume the awkward appearance of embarrassment or bashfulness, she took refuge from encountering the gaze of so many gentlemen by bending her eyes on her embroidery, or whatever work she was engaged in. She entered the Council Chamber in her regal capacity, but she never forgot the delicacy of her sex while there."

Of Mary's personal appearance much is said, with full descriptions of the chief portraits of her which are known. The frontispiece of the volume is an engraving from a picture in the possession of the Earl of Cassilis, which is thus described:—

"This most beautiful and undoubted likeness of Mary Stuart represents her in the morning flower of her charms, when she appeared at the summit of all earthly felicity and grandeur. It is in a nobler style of portrait-painting than that of Zuchero, and worthy, indeed, of Titian or Guercino. It is scarcely possible for an engraving to do justice to a picture of which the colouring and tone are so exquisite. The perfection of features and contour is there united with feminine softness and the expression of commanding intellect. Her hair is of a rich chestnut tint, almost black, which Nicholas White (who had ascertained the fact from her ladies) assures Cecil was its real colour. Her

complexion is that of a delicate brunette, clear and glowing; and this accords with the darkness of her eyes, hair, and majestic eyebrows. Her hair is parted in wide bands across the forehead, and rolled back in a large curl on each temple, above the small, delicately moulded ears. She wears a little round crimson velvet cap, embroidered with gold, and ornamented with gems, placed almost at the back of her head, resembling, indeed, a Greek cap—with this difference, that a coronal frontlet is formed by the disposition of the pearls, which give a regal character to the head-dress. Her dress is of rich crimson damask, embroidered with gold, and ornamented with gems. It fits tightly to her bust and taper waist, which is long and slender; so is her gracefully turned throat. She has balloon-shaped tops to her sleeves, rising above the natural curve of her shoulders. Her dress is finished at the throat with a collar band, supporting a lawn collarette, with a finely quilled demi-ruff. Her only ornament is a string of large round pearls, carelessly knotted about her throat, from which depends an amethyst cross. This portrait is in an oval frame; but the arms being cut off just above the wrists, mars the general effect, and suggests the notion that it has been a whole-length reduced to that size."

Queen Mary's literary talent and taste were great, and were displayed at an early age. She was little more than twelve years of age at the time to which the following passage refers:—

"Mary was at Paris on the New Year's Day, 1554–5, when she astonished the court of France and all the foreign ambassadors by the ease and grace with which she recited to the King, in the great gallery of the Louvre, in the presence of that distinguished company, an oration in Latin of her own composition, in the style of Cicero, setting forth, in opposition to the general opinion to the contrary, the capacity of females for the highest mental acquirements, such as literature and the fine arts—a proposition which no one who heard and saw the fair and learned young Queen that day felt perhaps disposed to deny. 'She both spoke and understood Latin admirably well,' says Brantôme, 'as I was myself a witness, and induced Antoine Fochain of Chauny, in the Vermandois, to address her in French on the subject of rhetoric, to which, though unprepared, she replied with as much wit and eloquence as if she had been born in France. It was really beautiful to observe her manner of speaking, whether to the high or low. From the time she arrived in France she had dedicated two hours a-day to reading and study, so that there were few sciences, even, on which she could not converse, and she always expressed herself gracefully and well; but she delighted in poetry above everything, and loved to discourse of it with Ronsard, Du Bellay, and Maison Fleur.'"

The celebrated Latin poet, George Buchanan, was her classical instructor, and he recorded with just pride the excellences of his pupil. Of one of his complimentary eulogies, a translation by George Riddell, Esq., a distinguished Scottish antiquarian, is furnished to Miss Strickland:—

"MARIA REGINA SCOTIE PUELLA.

"As Nature moulded Mary's form and face,  
So Art adorned her with transcendent grace;  
Glorious she shone, thus peerless in her kind,  
Blending all beauties with a heavenly mind;  
But *she* her talents had so nobly reared,  
That Nature rude, and Art inept appeared."

Every one knows the beautiful chanson from her pen, on setting out for Scotland, beginning—

"Adieu, plaisant pays de France,"

and the elegiac verses written after the death of Francis II., her first husband, will be read with interest.

The way in which Miss Strickland writes about the great reformer, John Knox, shows that she little understands his character, or the spirit of the times in which he played so

prominent a part. The cause of the Reformation had just struggled into a hopeful position in Scotland, when the arrival of the young Queen threw all the work into peril. The danger was like that of which we read in the stories of the primitive persecutions under the Roman emperors, when the virtue of some Christians, who had fearlessly withstood all violence and torture, was exposed to the seductions of lovely women who might tempt them to forget their faith. Had the representative of the Scottish Kirk in Mary's time been a man of less stern resolve and uncompromising firmness than Knox, there is little doubt that concessions would have been made, by which all that was noblest in the national character would have been permanently injured. A prophet with something of the dauntless spirit of Elijah was needed at such a crisis. It was not from the young queen herself that evil was dreaded; but she was surrounded by a popish court, and she was under the guidance of her uncles, the Cardinal de Lorraine and the Duke of Guise. The same spirit which dictated the massacre of St. Bartholomew in Paris, threatened to regain its influence at Edinburgh. Against this influence Knox and his Protestant associates resolutely contended, and in all their efforts true loyalty and patriotism were as conspicuous as zeal for religion. The stories about his personal rudeness to the queen are grossly exaggerated, and are usually narrated according to the reports of his enemies. Yet the famous scene at the palace, where Knox is said to have rebuked Mary for dancing, does not leave an unfavourable impression of the Reformer, even with the comments which Miss Strickland appends to the narrative. It appears that some mischief-makers reported to John Knox that "the queen had danced excessively till after midnight, because she had received letters that persecution was begun again in France." An ordinary ball at the palace being thus maliciously construed into a triumph over Protestant discomfiture, allusion was made to it next Sunday by Knox in preaching, according to the custom of the times, when politics were intruded into pulpit discourses. His words were reported, as he doubtless intended, to the queen, who sent for him the following day, and desired an explanation. "Whereupon," remarks Miss Strickland, in a style not very creditable to her taste, and which she generally uses in speaking of the reformer,—"*whereupon* the said Master John Knox favoured her majesty with an extempore abridgement of his sermon."

"And of dancing, madam, I said that, albeit in Scriptures I found no praise of it, and, in prophane writers, that it is termed the gesture rather of those that are mad and in phrensy, than of sober men, yet do I not utterly damn it, providing that two vices be avoided: the former, that the principal vocation of those that use that exercise be not neglected for the pleasure of dancing; secondly, that they dance not as the Philistines their fathers, for the pleasure they take in the displeasure of God's people;—for if any of both they do, they shall receive the reward of dancers, and that will be drink in hell, unless they speedily repent—so shall God turn their mirth to sorrow, for God will not always afflict his people, neither yet will he always wink at the tyranny of tyrants. If any man, madam, will say that I spack more, let him presently accuse me." "Your words are sharp enough, as you have spoken them," said the Queen; "but yet," continued she, looking pointedly at the reporters, "they were told to me in another manner. I know," pursued she, "my uncles (whom she was aware Knox figured under the epithet of 'the Philistines') 'and you are not of



one religion, and therefore I cannot blame you, albeit you have no good opinion of them. But if ye hear anything of myself that mislikes you, come to myself and tell me, and I shall hear you."

"Knox departed with a reasonable merry countenance, whereat some Papists exclaimed, as if surprised, 'He is not effrayed!' 'Why should the pleasing face of a gentlewoman effray me?' he with unwonted gallantry replied; 'I have looked in the faces of many angry men, and have not been effrayed beyond measure.'"

In some other scenes where Knox appears, the caricature is such that we doubt whether the facts of Dr. McCrie's biography have been before the author in writing her history. Yet, even on occasions when there most appeared a lack of courtesy and an absence of compromise on the part of the reformer, there is ever cause to admire his uncorrupted integrity and noble patriotism. In Scotland few readers will be misled by this part of Miss Strickland's narrative. It would have saved England many a year of strife and suffering had Craumer possessed a title of the honesty and firmness of John Knox.

The present volume brings the history of Mary down to 1562, when she was only in her twentieth year. It closes with the account of Bothwell's dark schemes for getting her person into his custody. In the succeeding portion of the history Miss Strickland will have fine scope for her lively style of narrative. We hope she may exhibit judgment in her estimate of historical characters, more equal to her ability in the narration of historical events.

*The Story of Reynard the Fox.* A new version by David Vedder. Illustrated by Gustav Canton, of Munich. W. S. Orr and Co.

Who wrote 'Reynard the Fox'? You might as well ask who was the man with the iron mask, or who built Stonehenge? Nobody knows by whom the book was written, and nobody knows when. In the list of venerable tomes which remain as the first wonders of the newly-invented printing-press, one of the earliest is the 'Hystorye of Reynard the Foxe, translated from the Dutch, into this rude and symple Englyssh, in the Abbey of Westminster, by me, William Caxton, and fynnyshed the vi. daye of Juyn, the yere of our Lord 1481, the 21 yere of the regne of Kyng Edward the iijth.' Another version was printed at Delft in 1484, and a third at Lübeck in 1498. But the story was known ages before printing, and was recited or read in many lands. One manuscript of the thirteenth century is said still to exist. Chroniclers relate that at the great festival given by Philip the Fair of France, in the beginning of the fourteenth century, among the dramatic entertainments was a whole life of Reynard, ending with his "becoming Pope, and still under the tiara continuing to eat poultry." In those days of oral tradition the versions of the tale were no doubt very diverse. Gradually the legend became more fixed. At length all the floating fables were collected and arranged by some comic Ossian, and presented in a formal history:—

"Loosely conjoined, and only in the state of dry bones, was it that Hinrek, or Nicholas, or some Saxon, whoever he might be, found the story; and blowing on it with the breath of genius, raised it up into a consistent fable. In this new guise it spread with unexampled rapidity, fixing itself as a firm possession in most countries. It was printed

and translated innumerable times. In the original dialect alone the editor has reckoned up more than twenty editions, in one of which we find such a name as Heinrich Voss. It was first translated into High German in 1545, into Latin in 1567, by Hartmann Schopper, and a new version into short German verse appeared the century following."

The further history is readily traced. The book has been a favourite in every European language. "It has been lectured on," says Carlyle, "in universities, quoted in imperial council-halls; it has lain on the toilets of princes, and been thumbed to pieces on the benches of artisans." The reason of this popularity it would be a curious ethical as well as literary question to discuss. With all the rascality of Reynard, his story exhibits the superiority of intellect over brute strength, and illustrates the maxim that "knowledge is power." Men always are apt to esteem a bad rogue more than a good fool, at least so long as personal interests are not at stake. And then what variety of human character is displayed in the tale, and how varied and severe the satire! The nature of this satire throws some negative light on the authorship of the story. It could not have been written by an ecclesiastic, for the priests are terribly taken to task. Still less could any lawyer have made such exposure of the roguery of his profession. Nor can a story boast of female authorship in which the foibles of the sex are so cleverly noted; as, for instance, when Reynard, on the point of being hanged, saves his life by referring in his speech under the gallows to a buried treasure of gold and ornaments, of which he knew the site. The wife of the monarch of the beasts could not resist this sly appeal to the curiosity, cupidity, and love of display which are found in every female breast.

But without saying more about the fable, we must notice in brief the peculiarities of Mr. Vedder's edition. He has kept pretty close to the ordinary versions, the chief difference being the addition of a closing chapter, in which Reynard appears as an outlaw and a vagabond, the author deeming it prejudicial to public morality to leave the wicked rogue in prosperity. Generally the curtain falls on Reynard enthroned as Lord Chancellor of the animal kingdom. But Mr. Vedder says that "to have allowed this over-gorged public defaulter to loll on the wool-sack in ease and honour, while he fleeced the lieges with impunity, would have abetted the avaricious propensities of public peculators, strengthened the bands of ingenious tyranny, and youthful aspirants after fame or fortune might have forgotten the awful denunciation, that 'fire shall consume the tabernacles of bribery,' and 'the hope of the unjust shall perish.'" So the last glimpse we have of Reynard—poor Reynard, we were going to call him after all—is in full flight, with avenging pursuers in his track.

With Mr. Vedder's style the only fault we have to find is that it is sometimes over-ornate. Here is his opening sentence:—

"The spring appeared in all its glory, and the husbandman anticipated the coming season with joy; the trees were clothed in verdure, and the fields were enamelled with flowers; the birds saluted the morning sun with hymns of gladness, and poured forth vesper songs, as the glorious luminary descended behind the western mountains."

As a contrast, we give the first few words of the tale as told by old Caxton:—

"It was about the tyme of Pentecoste or Whytsonyde that the wodes comynly be lusty and glad-

some, and the trees clad with levys and blossoms, and the grounds with herbes and flowers sweete smellyng."

There are some errors of taste throughout Mr. Vedder's narrative, as when some local Scotch allusions are introduced, or where Reynard recommends his friend Sir Malkin the Cat, to have his mice "cooked according to the canons of Soyer." But these are slight faults in a volume otherwise of great merit, and by far the best edition of this famous story yet presented in English.

The illustrations are admirable, displaying true genius as well as artistic skill. Never were human feelings and passions depicted through bestial form and physiognomy with more ludicrous truth. Mr. Canton has entered thoroughly into the spirit of the fable, and the pictures themselves tell the story effectively. The lithographs, by Schenck and Macfarlane, of Edinburgh, are finely executed. We were puzzled to understand why a portrait of Professor Wilson should form the frontispiece of the volume, but afterwards found on another page that the book is dedicated to him.

*The Cloister Life of the Emperor Charles the Fifth.* By William Stirling. John W. Parker and Son.

THIS is a critical history of a remarkable event in a remarkable period, and yet the narrative reads like a romance, so certain it is that truth is sometimes stranger than fiction. In this suggestive little tome is condensed the pith and marrow of careful, varied, and searching study; and so far from being one of those ephemeral "things of Spain," which do the business of the season and die, it is a work which will be referred to as a final authority, by which many previous and commonly received errors are set aright once for all. This healthful production may in some sort be considered to have been suggested by Mr. Ford's 'Handbook for Spain,' since the author's curiosity was first excited by the account given by that patriarch of peninsular campaigners, of his visit to the convent to which the world-weary emperor retreated, and by his mention of the existence of a manuscript compilation made some twenty years ago, from authentic and official sources, by the Canon Gonzalez, keeper of the national archives at Simancas, and purchased by M. Mignet. Mr. Stirling is already well known to the literary and artistic world by his excellent 'Annals of the Painters and Sculptors of Spain,' in which our students and amateurs are introduced to a goodly company of Spaniards, men eminent and justly renowned in their own country, but whose names in that fenced and sealed land had scarcely before passed the Pyrenees, much less the British Channel. Once on the right scent, our diligent author spared no pains in this labour of love. He started on a pilgrimage to the ruined cloister itself, ferreted into parchments and papers, and having read and digested every contemporary and subsequent work of authority, has strung together the pearls with a curious felicity of composition, and a racy attractive style which is peculiarly his own.

The age of Charles V. was one of those epochs of transition which form landmarks in modern history. He was the mighty Emperor at whose name nations grew pale; on whose dominions, which extended over the new and old world, the sun never set. He it



was whose ambition perplexed every statesman, and whose victorious arms threatened to give to Spain the sovereignty of Europe. His was the age of the restoration of classical literature, and of the culmination of the fine arts in Michael Angelo and Raffaele. His age witnessed the reformation of Luther, by which the spiritual monopoly of the Vatican was first shaken, and the prospect of civil and religious liberty opened to emancipated humanity. Since the days when Diocletian laid down the sceptre of absolute power, and retired voluntarily to distant unostentatious Spalatro, no such striking scene had been exhibited on the world's real stage, as when Charles V., on the 28th of October, 1555, assembled his states at Bruxelles, made his solemn abdication in favour of his son, Philip II., and departed in peace to a secluded convent in Estremadura, exchanging the ermine for the cowl, and the palace for the cloister. According to Mr. Stirling, the earliest and best printed account of his monastic life will be found in the 'History of the Order of St. Jerome,' by Siguencia, the first Prior of the Escorial, and in the 'Biography of Charles V.,' by Sandoval, Bishop of Pamplona. From their works most subsequent authors have—

"Drawn their materials, which, in passing from pen to pen, have undergone considerable changes of form. Our own Robertson has told the story of the Emperor's life at Yuste, with all the dignity and grace which belongs to his style, and much of the inaccuracy which is inevitable when the subject has been but superficially examined. Citing the respectable names of Sandoval, Vera, and De Thou, he seems to have chiefly relied upon Leti, one of the most lively and least trustworthy of the historians of his time. He does not appear to have been aware of the existence of Siguencia."

Mr. Stirling has also consulted the compilation of Gonzalez, which is now preserved in the archives of the Foreign Office at Paris. In this the thread of the narrative is written by the learned Canon, who otherwise permitted the chief actors to tell their own stories in their own words. When we remark that the Emperor himself, Philip II.; the Infanta Regent of Spain; Juan Vasquez, the Secretary of State; Louis Quixada, the chamberlain to Charles; Martin de Gaztelu, his secretary; William van Male, his old and faithful gentleman of the chamber; and Mathisio and Cornelio, his physicians, were the principal correspondents, it cannot be doubted that they knew every secret, and that the true relation of the retirement, residence, and death, is to be reconstructed from such confidential letters, which never before had been subjected to the eye of historian, native or foreign.

It is not possible, says Mr. Stirling, to determine the precise time when Charles the Fifth formed his resolution to abdicate—a design which so early as 1542 he certainly confided to the Duke of Gandia. No sooner was his son married to Mary of England, and competent to assume the reins of government, than he proceeded to entrust them entirely to his hands, and prepared to end his days in piety and repose. In September, after his solemn abdication, he quitted his native Flanders for the last time, crossed the Bay of Biscay, and landed at Laredo on the 28th. The feeble state of his health required that he should travel to Yuste by easy stages. He performed the long journey with tolerable ease, carried either in a horse-litter or in a chair; he passed through the intermediate towns as quietly as possible, avoiding state

receptions and parade, and adopting the demeanour of a private individual rather than that of the late arbiter of Europe. His route ran over some of the wildest districts of hungry inhospitable Spain, over tracts where roads and accommodation for man or beast are to this day unknown. The imperial comforts were, however, pretty well attended to; and he bore the journey bravely, and apparently without fatigue. His Flemish suite, long accustomed to the unctuous flesh-pots of rich and civilized Belgium, were overcome with hardships, toil, and disgust, and execrated every step which removed them more from their own happy home. "The chosen paradise of the master was regarded as a sort of hell upon earth by the servants." His first permanent halt was at Xarandilla, a village near Plasencia, where he was lodged for nearly three months in the castle of the feudal lord, the Count of Oropesa; here he awaited indignantly and impatiently the finishing the buildings and alterations which were making for his convenience at the convent of Yuste, and which had been begun three years before. Wrapped in a robe of eider-down, and seated by a blazing fire, he occupied himself with daily despatches from court, and with gastronomic indulgences:—

"In this matter of eating, as in many other habits, the Emperor was himself a true Fleming. His early tendency to gout was increased by his indulgences at table, which generally far exceeded his feeble powers of digestion. Roger Ascham, standing 'hard by the imperial table at the feast of the Golden Fleece,' watched with wonder the Emperor's progress through 'sod beef, roast mutton, baked hare,' after which, 'he fed well of a capon,' drinking also, says the Fellow of St. John's, 'the best that ever I saw. He had his head in the glass five times as long as any of them, and never drank less than a good quart at once of Rhenish wine.' Eating was now the only physical gratification which he could still enjoy or was unable to resist. He continued, therefore, to dine to the last on rich dishes, against which his ancient and trusty confessor, Cardinal Loaysa, had protested a quarter of a century before.

"The supply of his table was a main subject of the correspondence between the mayordomo and the Secretary of State. The weekly courier from Valladolid to Lisbon was ordered to change his route that he might bring every Thursday a provision of eels and other rich fish (*pescado grueso*) for Friday's fast. There was a constant demand for anchovies, tunny, and other potted fish, and sometimes a complaint that the trouts of the country were too small: the olives, on the other hand, were too large; and the Emperor wished, instead, for olives of Perejon. One day the Secretary of State was asked for some partridges from Gama, a place from whence the Emperor remembers that the Count of Osorno once sent him into Flanders some of the best partridges in the world. Another day, sausages were wanted 'of the kind which the Queen Juana, now in glory, used to pride herself in making, in the Flemish fashion, at Tordesillas,' and for the receipt for which the Secretary is referred to the Marquess of Denia. Both orders were punctually executed. The sausages, although sent to a land supreme in that manufacture, gave great satisfaction. Of the partridges, the Emperor said, that they used to be better, ordering, however, the remainder to be pickled. The Emperor's weakness being generally known, or soon discovered, dainties of all kinds were sent to him as presents. Mutton, pork, and game were the provisions most easily obtained at Xarandilla; but they were dear. The bread was indifferent, and nothing was good and abundant but chestnuts, the staple food of the people. But in a very few days the castle larder wanted for nothing. One day the Count of Oropesa sent an offering of game; another day a pair of fat calves arrived from the Archbishop of Zaragoza.

The Archbishop of Toledo and the Duchess of Frias were constant and magnificent in their gifts of venison, fruit, and preserves, and supplies of all kinds came at regular intervals from Seville and from Portugal.

"Luis Quixada, who knew the Emperor's habits and constitution well, beheld with dismay these long trains of mules laden, as it were, with gout and bile. He never acknowledged the receipt of the good things from Valladolid without adding some dismal forebodings of consequent mischief; and along with an order he sometimes conveyed a hint that it would be much better if no means were found of executing it. If the Emperor made a hearty meal without being the worse for it, the mayordomo noted the fact with exultation, and he remarked with complacency His Majesty's fondness for plovers, which he considered harmless. But his office of purveyor was more commonly exercised under protest; and he interposed between his master and an eel-pie as, in other days, he would have thrown himself between the imperial person and the point of a Moorish lance."

Nevertheless, what with pills, "senna wine," and two physicians at his elbow, Charles enjoyed, until the close of 1556, good health and spirits. Sometimes he went out with his gun, and walked at a brisk pace. His chief annoyances were his fingers swollen by gout, which in December attacked his knees, and sent him to bed; nevertheless his appetite continued keen, and he one day committed such an excess upon sausages and olives as brought on sore throat, and when he complained to his *maitre d'hôtel* how difficult it was to him to swallow, "Shut your Imperial mouth," was the sententious consolation, "and the gout will get well."

The spiritual welfare of the Emperor was entrusted to Juan de Regla, his confessor:—

"One of those monks who knew how to make ladders to place and favour of the ropes which girt their ascetic loins. On being first introduced into the imperial presence, he chose to speak in the mitre-shunning cant of his cloth, of the great reluctance which he felt in occupying a post of such weighty responsibility. 'Never fear,' said Charles, somewhat maliciously; 'before I left Flanders five doctors were engaged for a year in easing my conscience, so you will have nothing to answer for but what happens here.'"

It was on the 3rd of February, 1557, that Charles, having taken an affectionate farewell of most of his retainers, was placed in his litter, and, crossing the leafless forest, halted at the convent gates, where he was welcomed by his brother monks, and his cloister life really began. To this we shall return in our next.

*Dickens: Eine Charakteristik.* Von Dr. Julian Schmidt. Leipzig: Lork. London: Williams and Norgate.

WE have on several occasions adverted to the great popularity which some of our favourite novelists enjoy in Germany. First and foremost among these is Dickens. His works are most readily reprinted, translated, sold, and bought. It might perhaps be an exaggeration if we were to say that his novels have become household books among the Germans of all classes; but we certainly do not exaggerate when we say that Dickens is more popular, more generally known and appreciated among the Germans, than any of their own novelists. Each of their writers has his coterie; his name may travel beyond that circle, but his works do not. Dickens has the nation. His last new novel is always a fertile source of admiration for the reading public in all its varieties. His Quilps and



Heaps are as much detested in Germany as they are with us, and his Nellys and Doras draw as many tears there as they do here, and perhaps even more.

At first sight this appears strange enough. Dickens is so thoroughly *English* an author, that his most sanguine friends could never at any time have foreseen the veneration and love which cleave to his works in foreign countries, strangers alike to English virtues and vices, English wealth and English passions, and ignorant alike of our local associations, follies, prejudices, and sympathies. Dr. Julian Schmidt, the most eminent among the few, the very few critics of whom bewildered Germany can boast, has undertaken to explain and justify the admiration which the Germans feel for apparently so un-German an author; and the result of his labours, published in this little volume, is intended to form a supplement to the German editions of Dickens's works.

Dr. Schmidt is of opinion that Dickens owes his citizenship of the world to the fact, that his works are quite as humanistic as English. The Germans admire him, since, with all their natural conceit, they feel that they cannot boast of an author who is like him. They have a host of eminent writers, besides their great poets, Goethe and Schiller; they venerate them very much, but they read Dickens.—

"We find in him a poetic value far surpassing anything our own poets may have done of late. \* \* \* He is, moreover, more truly *German* than the whole of our romantic literature, from Tieck and Schlegel down to Hebbel and Gutzkow, and the forms he creates have their poetic value chiefly because, to a superabundance of individual views they join a manifestation of that thorough health and wholesomeness, which is to life what beauty is to art."

After reviewing the various schools of English novels in the last and in this century, the German critic adverts finally to the Shelley school, "which produced Thomas Carlyle."

"It is a leading feature of this school, that in it speculation inflates and finally explodes reality; it overleaps all limits and conditions, and settles down into a dreamy philosophy which plays fast and loose with the ideas. Thomas Carlyle is a prophet of this school. He attacked not only the established forms of thought, but also the established forms of language, and invented an idiom which is more intelligible to the Germans than to the English. Far different is Dickens; he, too, rides a neck-or-nothing race on the language, but he does it in the spirit of the language; his word-creative talent is in harmony with the habits of his nation, while Carlyle's innovation turned the language topsy-turvy. His (Carlyle's) was a dismal humour; a quaint listlessness, shaking its head sagely at all things, until the shaking of the head became merely a manner and meant nothing. It was the 'world-irony,' which is so usual in Germany, to whom all things appear grand and at the same time contemptible. Thus it is really a pendulum between a smile and tear. It is an idealism soaring beyond the confines of the earth, and dissolving finally into tears. It produced many beautiful thoughts and touching sentiments, but, detached from the earth as it was, it could not produce plastic forms."

"It was but natural that, fatigued with this metaphysical flight, writers and readers should descend to vulgar empiricism, and that the reverse of the ideal should be represented as the world such as it really and truly is. Look, for instance, at Warren and Hook. In them we have no longer the naive cynicism of a Smollet, who finds interesting features even in coarseness and vulgarity itself, but the exhaustion of that anatomical analysis

which dissects the objects in its search after the true ideal, until it is shocked to find that its knife has destroyed the ideals, and that nothing is left but a cold, inanimate corpse.

"These phases of English literature ought to be considered if we would understand the rejoicing of the whole of the nation, when a great and brilliant talent opened their eyes to the treasures of joy, beauty, and idealism of everyday life. There were always some sketches of the kind, but here was a great picture by the hand of a master, and it taught men to be pleased with themselves. Need we say that this new evangel of nature was most welcome to the Germans and the French, but especially to the former? We Germans had come to be painfully alive to the morbidity of our condition. Our poesy was a victim to abstractions, and in spite of its struggles it could not shake them off and soar to the pure light of day. We would gladly have fled from our strange Grecian temples and mystic Gothic cathedrals, and vainly did we struggle for a cottage, a hearth, a home. Voss, in his time, attempted to introduce the Idyl into a quiet parsonage, but he wanted the humour of Goldsmith to give colour and movement to his scenes of 'still life.' And Richter's struggles are really touching! But all these attempts have an arch-vice adhering to them; they separate their idealistic reality from the reality of everyday life. Far different is Dickens. In him we have the present age, with all its weaknesses, follies, and errors, and yet we are at home, and feel that this is a pleasant life. The enchanted castle of the ideal is no longer shown at a distance; poesy lights up the foggy streets of London, the dens of wretchedness, and the whole of creation. The true poet appeals to the heart of man; he acknowledges its essential goodness; he feels that it wants no gaudy foreign-looking apparel to interest our fancy, and that the human mind can afford to lavish its treasures on the most insignificant persons and events without any danger of such seeming waste entailing want."

"Hence the inexhaustible charms of the 'Pickwick Papers.' We have perused it a hundred times, and it is always fresh, always new. Humorists there are who far surpass Dickens in acute delineation of character, and showing us a great deal more of the objective world, but none of them can fill us with that zest and relish for life. For to introduce a poor and contented mind into the confused and characterless world, and maintain it there pure and contented—this is not by any means enough. This sort of resignation will never do. No; such a mind must be made to seize upon the antagonistic world, to conquer it, and cut its confusion and wickedness short before it can assert itself. That must be a strong world indeed which could puzzle a Sam Weller."

It is gratifying to find that our great authors are appreciated abroad, not only by the mass, but also by the critics of another nation. To those who know and love the Germans, it will be not less gratifying to learn that they value Dickens, and that they know the reason why.

#### NOTICES.

*Waldeck; or, the Siege of Leyden.* A Historical Play in Five Acts. By Angiolo R. Slous, Author of 'The Templar.' Chapman and Hall.

THE action of this play takes place within Leyden, during the last two days of its siege in 1573, by the Spanish army under Requeysana, general to Philip II. The citizens were driven to the last extremity, and there was a general desire to capitulate, on the faith of merciful terms offered by the besiegers. But the perjury and cruelty which had followed the capitulation of other towns, after oaths of forbearance from the Spaniards, induced delay. There was also promise of succour conveyed to the citizens, by means of carrier pigeons, from Prince Maurice of Nassau. In the following passage of the play this is referred to, and the chief characters of the drama are presented, the Count de Bassvelt, Waldeck, his adopted son, and

Sybil, the Count's daughter, the betrothed of Waldeck:—

"Waldeck. Yes, yes, relief must come!

De Bassvelt. Relief! from whom

Dost thou expect it?

W. Hath it not been promis'd?

Did not the message, borne beneath the wings Of those swift couriers of Hope, our friends Have sent us, give this joyful pledge?—'Hold out, Brave men of Leyden, but a few more days, And succour shall arrive!' These were the words.

De B. The words! the words! but when to be fulfill'd?

Will words give back the freshness to the cheek

Of her we love? throw health upon the air

That slays her day by day, and hour by hour?

Relief! did Haerlem have it?—Mechlin? No!

We'll free ourselves!

W. And with our swords cleave forth

A passage from the walls?

De B. That were to perish.

There is but one path leading not upon

The gates of Death. Resistance hath been strain'd

To the last point;—through our devoted streets,

Linking their grisly hands, stalk Pestilence

And Famine. We have done our best to keep

The town of Leyden.

W. (gazing earnestly at the Count). Father! Count de

Bassvelt!

De B. Now, upon honourable terms we'll yield her.

W. Yield her!

Thou canst not mean it. Yield up Leyden? Yield!

De B. And snatch thy Sybil from the grave, to save,

To save her, Maurice.

W. But for what? To save her!

No, no, my father, better death than that."

The art of the play consists in the complicated political movements of the parties within the city, conspiring against the governor, and seeking safety from famine and assault by surrender, mingled with the conflicting emotions of Waldeck, arising out of love to Sybil and his filial and patriotic duties. Count de Bassvelt heads the conspiracy against the governor, Adrian de Verf, the gallant defender of the city, impelled chiefly by desire of saving his child Sybil from death. The honour and ingenuity of Waldeck defeat the plot, and he continues to baffle the conspiracy, till the siege is suddenly raised by the cutting of the dykes, and the irruption of the sea upon the discomfited Spaniards. The passage of the play on which most interest turns is the interception of a treasonable document which had been signed by De Bassvelt. To Waldeck De Bassvelt gave the papers to carry, assured that he would not betray his father to the governor. Waldeck erased the signature, substituted his own, and allowed the plot to be revealed without his father being implicated, and at risk of his own life. To make the matter short, Leyden is saved, and Sybil, and Bassvelt, and Waldeck, and the whole play has a prosperous termination. As a piece of historical writing the poem is good, and there is enough of personal interest attached to the several characters; yet there is a lack of dramatic effect, whether arising from the subject, or from the author's management of it, we are at a loss to say. The author puts himself at a disadvantage in allowing the reader too early to see through all the plot, after which it is chiefly the historical development of the story which obtains attention.

*Course of the History of Modern Philosophy.* By M. Victor Cousin. Translated by D. W. Wight. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THE lectures, of which a translation by an American editor is here published, were delivered at Paris in the years 1828-29. "The delivery of these lectures," says Professor Sir William Hamilton, in the 'Edinburgh Review,' of October, 1829, referring to his first course, "excited an unexampled sensation in Paris. Condemned to silence during the reign of Jesuit ascendancy, M. Cousin, after eight years of honourable retirement, had ascended again the chair of philosophy; and the splendour with which he recommenced his academical career, more than justified the expectation which his recent reputation as a writer, and the memory of his earlier lectures had inspired. Two thousand auditors listened in admiration to the eloquent exposition of doctrines unintelligible to the many, and the oral discussion of philosophy awakened in Paris and in France an interest unexampled since the days of Abelard." The two series of lectures are now for the first time presented entire to the English reader, containing the whole matter of the three volumes of the French edition. The vast erudition, meta-



physical acumen, and eloquent style, of the greatest modern philosopher of France are displayed in this work. The second course of lectures, which contains a full exposition of M. Cousin's eclectic system, and his view of the philosophical theories of former times, will be prized by students of mental and moral science, as a work rich in original thought as well as full of instructive information. But to the general reader, the earlier course of lectures, forming the first of the three volumes of the French edition, will present subjects of greater interest, in which M. Cousin's views are stated in regard to human nature and the history of mankind, presenting a fine summary of the philosophy of history. Many of the lectures have additional interest in connexion with the subsequent history of the country in which they were delivered. The congratulatory harangue in Lecture Thirteen, on the overthrow of Jesuit power, and the progress of constitutional principles, reads strangely now, after the monarchy of the revolution of July, 1830, and the republic of 1848 have both passed away, and a second empire has sprung up, founded on military despotism and Jesuit intrigue. In the abstract philosophy of the human mind, apart from politics, there are themes less exciting perhaps, but also less mutable and more satisfactory, in examining which the student will find in the discourses of M. Cousin all the direction and aid which the light of truth and the voice of eloquence can afford.

*History of Greece, Macedonia, and Syria; from the Age of Xenophon to the Incorporation of those States with the Roman Empire.* Griffin and Co.

UNDER the above title a number of articles in the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana' are collected and classified, forming a separate volume of the historical division of the new edition of that work. Dr. W. Ree Lyall, Dr. Jacob H. Brooke Mountain, Mr. Renouard, Mr. Cleland, Mr. Pococke, and Dr. Michael Russell have contributed the various articles, which are arranged so as to present a complete view of the history of Greece, Macedonia, and Syria, from the close of the Peloponnesian war and the age of Agesilaus, down to the dynasties of Alexander's generals and the reign of Perseus, King of Macedon. The volume is in fact a history of 'the Decline and Fall of the Grecian Empire.' A great amount of valuable matter is condensed into this historical summary, the different parts being ably written by authors who have made them subjects of their special study and research. The volume contains a large number of illustrations, taken from works of authority, or now first taken from specimens in museums and classical collections.

*Streit und Friede.* Gedichte von Ferdinand Lehmann. Mit einer Vorrede von Ludwig Tieck. Williams and Norgate.

PROFESSOR TIECK, in a preface to these poems, says that he has seen in his time a complete reaction from rationalism to spiritualism in the poetic genius of his country. This reaction, he says, has been carried almost to excess, and a flood of religious sentimentalism has been poured over the fields of literature. But the poetry of Lehmann rises far above the platitude of the modern spiritual school. "This poetry," says Professor Tieck, "is genuine and true. In every respect it is distinguished, and is a remarkable appearance of the age. The poems begin flowingly and simply, telling of the quiet life of the author, his thoughts, experiences, doubts, religious meditations, and the scenes and sentiments of nature. They afterwards respond to the stirrings of a higher inspiration, and elevate themselves to visions. The true reader will be deeply interested in these changing experiences, and will learn to love the noble singer." Higher praise than this by Tieck could not well be given to the matter of Lehmann's book. The literary merit of the poetry is also great. The spiritual autobiography, and the philosophical reflections of the author, are expressed in verse of manifold metre, odes, songs, hymns, stanzas, and longer pieces, sometimes nobly eloquent, always simple and natural.

*The Practical Statutes of the Session 1852, 15 and 16 Vict.; with Introductions, Notes, and Index.* Edited by W. Paterson, Esq., Barrister-at-Law. Crockford.

THIS valuable periodical publication is on the present occasion later than usual in its appearance, and the volume is bulkier than its predecessors, for which the greater length and importance of the statutes comprised in it may be taken as sufficient apology and explanation. Among these statutes, the Copyright Amendment Act, the Militia Bill, the Metropolitan Burials Act, and the various acts for amending law procedure, recal a session unusually rich in measures of practical value and wide importance. There are altogether about fifty statutes in the volume, the texts of which are given, with useful introductory and explanatory remarks by the editor. A copious and well-digested index adds to the usefulness of the volume.

*Correspondance Administrative sous le Règne de Louis XIV.* Paris: Imprimerie Nationale.

THE French Government is gradually causing to be printed a mass of documents illustrative of, or useful to, the history of France; and the present volume is the third of a series, which contains the correspondence between the Cabinet of Louis XIV. and the Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of France, the Intendants and Governors of Provinces, the Bishops, Judges, and high functionaries of the kingdom. The correspondence is, so to speak, the private machinery by which the Government of the grand monarch was carried on, and on that account it will be esteemed by all who take interest in historical and political matters, and especially by the far greater number of persons who are dazzled by the *éclat* of that sovereign's reign.

*Annuaire de la Revue des Deux Mondes, 1851.* Paris.

THE second year of this new annual register has just appeared, and it is in every respect equal, in some even superior, to the first. It is impossible to have a clearer, fuller, and on the whole, more impartial account of the events which occurred in all countries of the world, and especially in those of Europe, in the *annus mirabilis*, 1851.

#### SUMMARY.

IN one volume of the new cheap edition of his works, *Charles Dickens's Christmas Books* are presented. 'The Christmas Carol,' 'The Chimes,' 'The Cricket on the Hearth,' 'The Battle of Life,' 'The Haunted Man,' will delight many new readers in their new form, for they are stories containing matter adapted for all years and any season, and they will all bear reading over again by those who welcomed them on their first appearance. A book entitled *A Walk across the French Frontier into North Spain*, by Lieutenant March, relates to a district little described by tourists, but better to remain uncelebrated than to afford themes for a writer such as the author of this volume. Lieut. March, we suspect, is merely a *nom de promenade* or *de plume*. His travels in the country were very limited, and he makes his few personal adventures the occasion of miscellaneous disquisitions on subjects with little tact and less taste. At the close of the volume the author, in very commonplace style, bids his "gentle reader farewell, and thanks him for listening to his gossip with such patience." We cannot recommend anyone to undertake for pleasure what has fallen to us as a duty.

In Bohn's 'Standard Library,' the first volume is given of *The Life and Correspondence of John Foster*, edited by J. E. Ryland, A.M., with notices of Mr. Foster as a preacher and companion, by John Sheppard. In this work, published by Mr. Ryland in 1846, a valuable contribution to British biography was made, and the present edition will make Foster's life known to a wider circle of readers. A large portion of the work consists of Mr. Foster's own letters. There are some valuable papers in this edition not in the previous one. In Bohn's 'Classical Library,' the volume for the month is *The Greek Anthology*, the well-known

class-book at Eton, Westminster, and other public schools, literally translated into English prose, chiefly by George Burgess, A.M., Trinity College, Cambridge. Metrical versions of many of the pieces, by Bland, Merivale, and others, are added. The editor has judiciously inserted a great variety of these translations and imitations, by various hands in former times, as well as by living scholars. We have, for instance, William Cowper, Dr. Hodgson, Lord Denman, Henry Nelson Coleridge, Rev. Dr. Wellesley, and Sir Alexander Croke, among the names on the miscellaneous list of metrical translators, numbering twenty-four in all. Mr. Burgess has well performed his editorial duties. In Mr. Bohn's series of the 'Bridgewater Treatises,' the masterly work of Dr. Whewell, on *Astronomy and General Physics*, is produced. Of Dr. Whewell's Treatises there have already been six editions under the former copyright of the works.

The interest in everything relating to the Duke of Wellington has induced the republication of *Booth's Battle of Waterloo*, being a history of the campaign, and the final battle of the 18th of June, first published in 1816. This edition, the eleventh, is in octavo, to be completed in six monthly parts, of which the first has appeared. There are to be numerous plans, maps, and etchings. The frontispiece presents medallion busts of Wellington and Blücher.

An illustrated book of scripture narrations, *The Sunday Picture Book*, contains stories from the New Testament, chiefly relating to the life of the Saviour, with wood engravings of a superior kind. The pictures are well designed, and the book is one likely to be attractive to children.

Of the beautiful reprint of *Bishop Ken's Approach to the Holy Altar*, noticed by us in a former Gazette, a new edition is published, and also a companion volume, *Bishop Ken's Exposition of the Creed*, extracted from his 'Practice of Divine Love.' In a well-written introduction the editor gives some account of the author's original work, and enters upon a review of the doctrinal tenets of the exposition, with reference to the controversies of the present day.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Allies (J.) on the Ancient Antiquities of Worcestershire, 15s.  
Ashton on Corns and Bunions, post 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
Bentick's (Lord G.) Life, new edition, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
Blanche Mortimer; or, Unconscious Influence, 12mo, 5s.  
Bread upon the Waters, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
Browne's (R. W.) Classical Literature, 2 vols. 8vo, £1 1s.  
Bunsen's (C. J.) Hippolytus and his Age, 4 vols., £2 2s.  
Butler's (G.) Principles of Imitative Art, post 8vo, 6s.  
Chapman's Library for the People, Sketches of Painters, 2s.  
Christian Theism, 1s.  
Cheever's Voices of Nature, 12mo, cloth, 2s.  
Cotton's (Rev. H.) Editions of the Bible, &c., 8vo, 8s. 6d.  
Cox's Geography of Palestine, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
— Manners and Customs of the Israelites, 8vo, 2s. 6d.  
Crichton's Arabia, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
Davies's (Henry) Young Wife's Guide, post 8vo, 3s. 6d.  
Elements of Health and Principles of Female Hygiene, 6s.  
Fell's Annotations upon St. Paul's Epistles, new ed., 7s.  
George's (A.) My Life and Acts in Hungary, 2 vols., £1 1s.  
Greening's Forms of Declarations in Common Law, 10s. 6d.  
Hall's (Mrs. S. C.) Stories of the Governess, 8vo, 7s. 6d.  
Headland's Action of Medicines on the System, 8s. 6d.  
Hemming's Differential and Integral Calculus, 8vo, 9s.  
Hitchcock's Phenomena of the Seasons, cloth, 1s. 6d.  
Kemp's Imposition of Christ, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
Ken's Exposition of the Apostles' Creed, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.  
— Approach to the Altar, 2nd edition, 12mo, 1s. 6d.  
Lovechild's Sketches of Little Boys and Girls, 2s. 6d.  
Mountford's (Wm.) Thorpe, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Moore's (Thomas) Poetical Works, 19 vols., 3s. 6d. each.  
Myers's Sermon before the University of Cambridge, 4s. 6d.  
Napoleon the Little, by Victor Hugo, library ed., 8vo, 4s.  
Neale's Summer and Winter of the Soul, fcap. 8vo, 6s.  
Norton's (Hon. Mrs.) The Gossip, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.  
Ormulum (The), edited by R. M. White, 2 vols. 8vo.  
Prisoners (The) of Hope, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Pusey's (Rev. E. P.) Parochial Sermons, Vol. 1, 10s. 6d.  
Revelations of Siberia, by a banished Lady, 2 vols., £1 1s.  
Scholia Græca in Eschinem et Isocratem, &c., 8vo, 4s.  
Shee's Irish Church, its History and Statistics, 8vo, 5s.  
Spiritual Library, Vol. 1, The Religion of Good Sense, 1s. 6d.  
Strickland's Queens of Scotland, Vol. 3, crown 8vo, 10s. 6d.  
Todhunter's (J.) Differential and Integral Calculus, 10s. 6d.  
Traveller's Library, The Australian Colonies, 2 pts. 1s. each.  
— cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Walker's Dictionary, by Smart, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Wellington, (Illustrated Biography of) cl., 1s. 6d.; sewed, 1s.  
— (Life of), foolscap 8vo, boards, 1s.  
Young Housekeeper's Essential Aid, 12mo, cloth, 2s.



## MURAL PAINTINGS.

Oct. 18th, 1852.

THERE have recently been discovered in the church of Pickering, in Yorkshire, some mural paintings of considerable interest to the antiquary. The nave of the church consists of four semicircular arches, and four clerestory windows on each side above them. In the spaces between the arches and the windows, and in the soffits of the arches, as well as the splay of the windows, various subjects have been represented in the usual style of our medieval paintings. Around the window of the transept is a large subject representing the Resurrection, but a "restoration" of the window some time ago has almost destroyed it. On the north wall of the nave is a representation of England's patron saint engaged in combat with the dragon. The figure of the saint is executed with great spirit, and is larger than life size. The costume is that of Richard II.'s reign, a period when many of our churches appear to have been decorated with this description of painting. The figure of Saint George is well drawn, and the action is bold and characteristic. His surcoat is white, charged with a red cross. The dragon is painted green, and its tail encircles the hind legs of the horse; the warrior's spear is in its mouth. Another subject—a very common one in church paintings of the middle ages—is Saint Christopher bearing the infant Jesus; both these figures are damaged by the monumental slabs which have been affixed to the walls. The enthronization of the Virgin is the subject of another group; then follows the illustration of passages in the life of Saint John the Baptist; the remonstrance of John, the presentation of his head to Herodias by the executioner, &c. The figure of Herodias is handsome and well drawn. Other groups comprise the martyrdom of Saint Sebastian, who is represented pierced with arrows, while two spiritedly drawn figures of archers are about to transfix him with their shafts. In the martyrdom of Becket, the knights are confronting the archbishop; one is apparently addressing him, while the others are unsheathing their weapons. The murderers are represented in the very characteristic armour of the period, and the scene is depicted with considerable truth and skilfulness. On the south side is a compartment containing scenes in the legend of Saint Catherine. The first group represents her refusing to worship an idol, with Satanic attributes, on a pedestal. Others are prison scenes, which have been partially destroyed by the aforesaid monumental slabs. The last scene visible is that immediately preceding her martyrdom. The saint stands in the midst of four wheels armed with knives, while an angel descending, sword in hand, breaks in pieces the grisly periphery. Besides these subjects, there are others more or less damaged by the monumental slabs. Lastly, there are several scenes from the Gospel history, among which are Christ healing the ear of the high priest's servant, Christ before Pilate, the scourging, the crucifixion, the taking down from the cross, and the entombment. The existence of these paintings—perhaps the finest series hitherto known in England—was first made known in consequence of the putting up of one of the unsightly monumental slabs already mentioned, the successive coats of whitewash being then accidentally displaced. It is said that the Vicar of Pickering, under an impression that these helps to scripture teaching, adopted by the ecclesiastics of former times, savoured too much of popery, was unwilling that the walls should be further cleared of whitewash, and actually refused to perform service while such abominations remained visible. But the interposition of the churchwardens, supported by the Archbishop of York, has preserved them for further elucidation.  $\Phi$

## GERMAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

## Second General Meeting.

PROFESSOR FRESenius in the chair.—Professor Haidinger of Vienna read the following statement respecting the Imperial Geological Institute of Austria:—

Gentlemen,—I propose to give a short statement

of the history of the development of the Imperial Geological Institute of Austria, the direction of which has been entrusted to me. I consider this a duty of gratitude for the great interest which has been shown to me personally by my numerous friends, not only in Vienna, but in other parts of the empire, and even beyond the Austrian frontiers. A corresponding member of more than one hundred societies and institutes, and member of more than fifty of them, I here find myself in the presence, not only of many old and approved friends, but of many distinguished men hitherto only known to me by their correspondence. To them and others I am anxious briefly to point out those features in the history of the recent scientific progress in Austria of which I have been myself a witness, and of which the Imperial Geological Institute itself forms a part. You, gentlemen, will excuse me if, owing to my close connexion with it, I appear to put myself unnecessarily forward. I have now, for the third time, the satisfaction of attending the meeting of German Naturalists and Physicians. The first time at Prague, in 1835, when I had retired into private life. The second time at Gratz, in 1843, when having, three years before, again entered on public duties, and solely occupied in establishing the Imperial Montanistic Museum, I was only able to communicate the results of my own studies, of which that Museum, founded in 1835 by Prince Lobkowitz for my former teacher Mohs, was the basis, and which afterwards, under the direction of Baron Kübeck, already claimed the attention of travellers from Vienna to Gratz. But at that time there was no Imperial Academy of Sciences at Vienna; there was no Imperial Geological Institute; Kreil was not yet at the head of the Meteorologico-Magnetic Central Institution; Hyatt had not then formed the New Imperial Museum of Comparative Anatomy; Frauenfeld had not laid the foundation of the Zoologico-Botanical Union, which is now flourishing under the direction of its President, Prince Khevenhüller; to say nothing of many other favourable developments which, notwithstanding the drawbacks of a short period of disturbance, have shown themselves, like the energy and activity of the Imperial Society of Physicians. I have attended this third meeting at the instigation of the Imperial Minister of Home Agriculture and Mines on behalf of the Imperial Geological Institute. It is to-day my agreeable duty to report on the proceedings of others, while my own exertions, according to the natural rules of vital progression, retire from more active display.

My friend and companion in Wiesbaden, Herr Franz von Hauer, first entered the Imperial Montanistic Museum in the winter after the meeting at Gratz. He and other similarly disposed young men met in November, 1845, for the purpose of mutually communicating the results of their scientific pursuits. I undertook to conduct the formation of a private society for natural sciences. I will not here allude to the many, but ever fruitless, attempts to form an academy of science connected with the state, from the time of Leibnitz, during the Government of the Empress Maria Theresa, to the attempts of Herr von Littrow, Jacquin, Hammer-Purgstall, Von Schreibers, and others. The present proposal was of a different character—viz. to form a private union. Messrs. Von Ettingshausen and Schrötter, whom I have the pleasure of now seeing present, arranged with me the principles of the Society. Two meetings of the chief naturalists of Vienna soon followed. But here the old notion of a "Society in connexion with the State" was again revived, and Professor Endlicher sent in a new memoir with this object. In the meantime the meetings of the friends of natural history continued. The first report of their meetings appeared in the month of May in the 'Vienna Gazette.' At the same time I proposed, in my own name, a subscription of 20 florins (2*l.*) per annum for the publication of papers on natural science, the annals of the embryo Society, while the reports of the meetings subsequently collected should be published in the 'Vienna Gazette.' In the course of this period I have, with the assistance of numerous friends and cultivators

of science, published four volumes of 'Transactions,' in 4to, and seven volumes of 'Reports,' in 8vo.

It happened by a singular coincidence that my appeal for a subscription appeared in the Vienna 'Gazette' on the 30th May, 1846, the birthday of H.M. the Emperor Ferdinand, the same day on which the monarch had come to the resolution of forming the so long wished for Academy of Sciences, a resolution which was carried out on the 14th May, 1847. A long-felt want was now satisfied, and on all sides has the development of the influence of the Academy on the scientific energy of Vienna and of Austria been cheerfully acknowledged, under the successive presidencies of Hammer-Purgstall, and Baumgarten, Minister of Finance and Commerce, with the assistance of the general secretaries, Von Ettingshausen and Schrötter. My young friends and myself had already in the Montanistic Museum directed our attention to the geological knowledge of the country. In fact, a geological general map of the Austrian monarchy had been prepared, which might form the basis of future proceedings. The Imperial Military Geognostic Institution undertook the printing of it in colours. It was laid before the meeting at Aix-la-Chapelle in 1847. At the request of my friend and colleague, Professor Partsch, and of myself, the newly-formed Imperial Academy of Sciences warmly espoused the interests of this national investigation of the country. Messrs. Von Hauer and Hörnes travelled at the expense of the Academy, in 1848, through England, France, and Germany; and in 1849, through several of the provinces of the Austrian monarchy. But the expenses of travelling through the empire, and the completion and publication of maps, would have fallen too heavily on the funds, however considerable, of the Academy. But here, at the most desirable moment, the Imperial Department of Agriculture and Mining came forward, and placed the necessary means at our disposal.

H.M. the Emperor Francis Joseph I. founded on the 15th November 1849 the Imperial Geological Institute, on the proposal of his minister M. de Thinnfeld, and on the 29th November entrusted me with its direction. The annual sum appointed for it is 31,000 florins (3100*l.*), and a sum of 10,000 florins (1000*l.*), was granted as outfit. The other appointments were given to Messrs. von Hauer and Czjzek, Count Marschall, and M. Foetterle, and M. von Lipold was named as temporary geologist. The reports of the proceedings during the last three years are now nearly ready.

The principal duty of a geological institution is naturally the geological investigation and construction of geological maps of the country in which it is established. Other duties attach themselves, however, to it. The superficial area of Austria amounts in round numbers to 12,000 square miles (German ?) Undertakings of this kind should be so arranged, that the chief works, like maps, may be completed within the period of one generation, during which the state of art and science remains tolerably similar. A period of thirty years has therefore been adopted, so that 400 square miles shall be explored and mapped annually. As the basis of the survey, sections of the military map of the Master General's Staff, on the scale of 400 fathoms to the inch, or  $\frac{1}{25000}$  natural size, are first used. The results are then transferred for publication to the Special Maps of the Imperial Military Geographical Institution, on a scale of 2000 fathoms to the inch, or  $\frac{1}{12500}$  natural size. A certain number of these will be distributed as presents, others will be prepared to order at cost price. The peculiarity of our circumstances does not admit of our having a regular dépôt of these maps, inasmuch as it would require far too great a capital.

The order of the surveys of the crown lands is partly dependent on the existence of the special maps of the scale of 2000 fathoms to the inch, and it has therefore been arranged to begin with Lower Austria, to be followed by Austria Proper, which completes the first general staff map. Then will follow Salzburg, the Tyrol, Lombardy, Venice, each with a separate map; Inner Austria with a general map for Carinthia, Styria, Illyria,



Görz, Trieste, Istria, all on the scale of 2000<sup>o</sup>; Lombardy and Venice alone on a scale of 1200<sup>o</sup>, or  $\frac{1}{16}$  natural size. Then further north will come Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. All these maps, with the exception of that of Bohemia, are published; this is not yet completed. The publication of the maps of all the other crown lands is not yet commenced. In order that the maps may be ready for the Geological Survey, his Majesty the Emperor has lately increased the income of the Military Geological Institute by the yearly sum of 50,000 florins (5000*l.*), to complete the survey of the country and the publication of the maps. But the geological knowledge of the eastern Alps in Austria, Styria, and Salzburg, required in 1850 a preliminary general investigation, which was undertaken by Messrs. von Hauer, Czjzek, Lipold, Kudernatsch, Ehrlich, Simony, Stur, Prinzinger, and others. Professor Emmerich also investigated one section. The object was to obtain accurate sections in as many directions as possible, or to procure special systems of parallel sections, which was done. The drawing was done on an equal scale of heights and distances. I have here one of them, in five parallel sheets, prepared by M. Lipold in Salzburg. It was not until the second year that the real work was commenced in Lower Austria, under the direction of M. Lipold, north of the Danube; Czjzek, south of the Danube to the east; and under Kudernatsch, south of the Danube to the west. I have to-day the pleasure of exhibiting the result of their surveys, laid down on the 2000 fathom map.

But after the first expeditions of the summer of 1850, our stores of mineralogical, geological, and palæontological objects had so increased, that the grant of a new locality for working and exhibiting was become almost a question of existence for us. The difficulty has been most favourably solved by obtaining the lease of the palace of Prince Lichtenstein, formerly Rasumovsky, for which we are indebted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Mining. The summer of 1851 was employed by MM. von Hauer and Foetterle, with slight exceptions, in removing the collections from the old to the new locality, and beginning its arrangement in nearly fifty apartments, some of the finest of which are devoted to the arrangement of the collections, others to the stores, and others to work and study. During the present summer Upper Austria has been our principal occupation. M. von Lipold, with M. Prinzinger, undertook the Salzkammergut, and the neighbouring districts; M. Joh. Kudernatsch, the country south of Linz; Bergrath Joh. Czjzek, with Dr. Stur, the country of the Enns; Dr. Peters, the country north of the Danube; and MM. von Hauer and Foetterle, with F. von Lidl, completed on the special maps those parts of Styria which bound Austria on the south. But it also became our duty, even during the rapid progress of the purely geological investigation, and without waiting for the final results, to give some account of our proceedings, in order in some degree to interest and to satisfy a sympathizing public. This was obtained by meetings held in the apartments of the Imperial Geological Institute, at which the more important discoveries were stated by the president, and of which reports were published in the 'Vienna Gazette.' The meetings, which are public, are held every week throughout the winter. During the summer monthly reports of the work done are published.

The Reports of the Meetings, as well as other communications, are collected in the 'Annals of the Imperial Geological Institute.' They appear quarterly in numbers of about 180 pages, with plates. Two volumes for 1850 and 1851 are completed. They are lying for inspection on the table. Of these 'Annals,' about a thousand copies are distributed gratis—partly to the Imperial Montanistic localities, to the authorities, and to schools in the monarchy, partly to Scientific Institutes and Societies at home and abroad, from which other publications are expected in return. More important and comprehensive works were also undertaken, to publish the Palæontological and more detailed Geological communications, of which I have the pleasure of exhibiting several to the present meet-

ing. Dr. Moritz Hörnes, Curator of the Imperial Mineralogical Cabinet, newly arranged under the direction of our colleague Partsch, undertook the publication of the 'Fossil Mollusca of the Tertiary Basin of Vienna.' Two numbers of the work have already appeared, each with five plates and the necessary text; the former, like all our printed publications, admirably executed in the Imperial Printing Establishment, under the direction of the Regierungsrath (Councillor) Auer. Dr. Constantine von Ettingshausen, whose services we have secured as geologist for Phyto-palæontology, undertook the editing of the 'Tertiary Flora' as a complete work. The 'Flora of the Vienna Basin' (five plates) is nearly complete. Besides these two works, and forming with them the 4th publications, the 'Proceedings of the Imperial Geological Institute' are also published. The first volume is nearly finished, containing the following communications in three parts:—

1. Geology—Dr. A. E. Reuss: Eger and the District of Asch, one map.
2. Zoo-Palæontology—*a.* Joh. Kudernatsch, The Ammonites of Swinitza, four plates.—*b.* Dr. Frederic Zekeli, The Gastropods of the Gosau Formation, twenty-four plates.
3. Phyto-Palæontology—*a.* Palæobromelia, two plates.—*b.* The Wealden Flora, five plates.—*c.* Appendix to the Oolite and Lias Flora, five plates.—*d.* The Flora of Stradonitz in Bohemia, three plates. All by Dr. von Ettingshausen.

Most of these, with the exception of Zekeli's Gastropods from Gosau, and Ettingshausen's Flora of Stradonitz, are complete. Besides these have also been published, 'The Catalogue of the Library of the Imperial Court Mineralogical Cabinet,' by the Director Partsch, and the 'Progress of Mineralogy from 1844—1849,' by Dr. G. A. Kenngott.

One of the points by which the geological knowledge of the country is most intimately connected with the daily wants of life, is the chemical composition of the objects brought under notice. The Imperial Geological Institute possesses its own laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Franz Kagsky, in which all chemical investigations connected with agriculture, or other practical purposes, are undertaken. In another part of the building, chemical inquiries connected with mining and smelting operations are carried on by M. Patera.

Such is a sketch of the activity of the New Institution. We have also had the benefit of the assistance of other friends in other works, as of M. Heckel in the department of Fish, and Professor Reuss in that of fossil Polyparia, Entomostraca, and Foraminifera; of M. Suess in that of fossil Brachiopods; besides that of the many geological and natural history societies which have been founded during the last few years in so many parts of the empire, as at Innsbrück, Gratz, Brunn, Pesth, Laibach, Hermanstadt, with all of which we endeavour to co-operate, however independent of each other, for the same purposes. I will only add, that this sketch merely refers to the Imperial Geological Institute, not to all the geological investigations and inquiries of the empire, amongst which those of the Italian naturalists, Dr. Zigno, Pasini, Catulla, Maniongo, Der Villa, Curioni, Balsame-Grivelli, Cornali, &c., have produced such valuable results. Above all, I must then have alluded to the great works of M. Barrante, whose first volume, 'The Trilobites of Bohemia,' is now almost ready. I should be exceeding the proper length of this address were I to enlarge on the extent, nature, and character of our collections; my friends and companions, MM. von Hauer and Von Ettingshausen, will explain much of this in the sectional meetings. It will, however, always give us the greatest pleasure to show all our collections in the Central Museum at Vienna, to those friends who take an interest in them, who will honour us with their presence, and whom I now specially invite.

Dr. Jaeger, of Stuttgart, then addressed the Meeting in commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the Leopoldino-Carolina Academy, detailing the history of its origin and proceedings. It owed its existence to the taste for science which sprang up in the middle of the seventeenth century, after the settlement of the peace of West-

phalia. On the 2nd of January, 1652, four physicians met together in a small room in the little town of Weilburg, and there founded a society under the title of Academia Naturæ Curiosorum. It soon attracted the attention of the government, and the emperors of Germany took it under their protection. The privileges conferred by the Emperor in 1686 were confirmed and extended in 1772. The position of the President was peculiarly independent. He was chosen for life by the committee of adjuncts. They enjoyed freedom of printing and other important privileges. Their influence was extended by exchanging Transactions with other societies. A change is now proposed in one essential feature—viz., to give it a fixed habitation for its library. The Society has now no fixed abode, but adopts the residence of the President for the time being. Since 1818, when Professor Nees von Esenbeck was chosen President, Breslau has been the seat of its temporary abode. Its principal object was the furtherance of the study of medicine and of natural history by its published Transactions. It also included botany and physical science, descriptions of foreign animals then little known, and physical botany. Mineralogy was subsequently introduced, followed by geology and palæontology. The difficulty of studying natural history in former periods was very great, and when we consider the want of efficient instruments compared with the results of modern improvements, and the facilities of modern communication and free trade, we cannot but admire and wonder at what they were then able to produce. The speaker then proceeded to describe the progress of science, and the gradual separation of purely scientific inquiry from that which was merely medical, the necessary result of greater division of labour, and the independence of each branch. Then referring to the present state of the Society, and the necessity of improving its position, he observed, that on the election of the present President the Society was taken under the immediate protection of Prussia, and its efficiency extended by grants of money. It is now proposed to reduce the price of the Transactions, and to separate the different memoirs of the 'Acta.' Although the merits of the present President in editing the 'Acta' were very great, this could not always be depended on;—a President, however great his scientific merits, would be compelled to resign his office if his means were insufficient. He therefore argued on the necessity of improving his position in accordance with the wants of the German fatherland, and consistently with its character. The Society itself required a fresh development in accordance with the wants of science and the practice of other academies, divided into classes, to each of which different duties were assigned. Here there is only one class. He looked forward with confidence to its further progress and development in connexion with the scientific institutions of other countries. Science is dear to the German fatherland, and must now be developed, to the glory of the country and to the benefit of the human race.

Professor Nees von Esenbeck, in the name of the Leopoldino-Carolina Academy, spoke as follows:—The connexion and intercourse of learned societies is a curious phenomenon. The union of several produces fruit at once, by the mere effort and operation of the will, and, unlike a human being, they burst at once into life, full grown and fully developed, and with the fullest enjoyment of their faculties. So it was in 1652, in the old home in Weilburg, when four men met and founded the Academy on the basis of a true and faithful observation of nature, and now it is said we must purify the study of medicine from the dross with which it was overloaded. But the work of the present moment must be looked upon as the interest of a capital then funded, and the question to be asked is, have we done our duty? The question is a serious one. But although the very house in which those men met may now have disappeared before the progress of railroads, the intellectual spirit which once issued from that house may be said to have raised the spirit of physical science by which man has now obtained the mastery over



matter, and thus it has produced its fruit. The founders of the Academy acted like men inspired with one idea. They carried it out, and left the result to God. At first little was known of nature, and they had great difficulty in making that little known; but an enterprising publisher was found, and matters proceeded more favourably. They had thus obtained a soil, and they proceeded to collect their treasures, and amongst these was money. They were supported by a liberal government. And what has the Academy done since then? I will tell you. We have received 1700 dollars (Prussian) per annum, for the last thirty-two years, and have generally published two parts of a volume annually, costing, if we deduct the produce of sales, about 20,000 dollars. We live in the hope of the continuance of the grant, notwithstanding the unpleasant rumours which have circulated; for I hear from Austria, that if Prussia withdraws the grant we have hitherto received from her, Austria is prepared to pay the same herself, and equally unconditionally. Thus we have another home in prospect. Austria will not suffer that the Academy founded and supported by her former emperors should perish. Our prospects for the future are good. We shall never fall into difficulties, for science knows none. But besides this, there is an expectation of support from the Diet, a measure which would be approved by all the smaller states of Germany. I have said all my heart had to say. May the next hundred years bring forth as much as the last.

This address was followed by a distribution of diplomas of the Academy to new members, whose names were read out.

Dr. Posner then addressed the meeting on the position of the medical faculty towards the solving of the great social question of the day. He observed, that at former periods there existed an antagonism between science and life. [The word life must not be here taken in the sense as opposed to death, but in a concrete form, representing human life in its social character.] Life or society did not understand science, and science did not care for society. So long as this enmity existed between these two kingdoms of existence, they were mutually misunderstood. But this is no more the case. Luther first broke the spell; and now science has become full of life, and life is become scientific. Science is now become more practical, and its influence on life is daily increasing. The social question is the enigma of the present day. Most of the solutions which have been recently attempted have generally disregarded property, or have wished to reach a new state of social existence by the total destruction of everything now existing. Revolutions have as yet done nothing to improve the state of society. Man can only grow by gradual organic progress, not by destruction of what was before, and society can only be improved by the same process.

The real solution of this question can only be expected from science, and particularly from natural history and medicine. In the human body, work is the condition of healthy existence, and this condition is a necessity of existence. It is the duty of medicine to undertake this task. Medical art alone can trace national diseases to their source, and can alone detect the remedies. Thus it is the duty of every state, which regards the health and prosperity of its subjects, to organize a regular school of medical science connected with the State. In cases where the cholera has produced the most frightful ravages, these might have been avoided by attending to medical advice. Numerous instances in the East establish the truth of this statement. Moreover, medicine can greatly increase the wealth of nations by destroying diseases; thus prolonging life, and avoiding the immense sums expended in the maintenance of the sick and poor. A general opposed to an advancing enemy takes his measures *beforehand* to prevent his being surprised. The state that would avoid the approach of hostile disease must also be prepared beforehand with the means of offering a successful resistance. Hence the necessity for the establishment of a School of Medicine directly con-

nected with the state. Amongst other duties, it is important to attend to the dwellings and food of the poor. The state should provide the means of building suitable habitations for them; and experience has shown that this is equally profitable as an investment of capital. With regard to food, flesh is an important, even a necessary ingredient, yet in many provinces of Germany it is entirely beyond the reach of the mass of the inhabitants, whilst in Australia and the vast plains of Brazil it is a superfluity. Liebig has proposed the means of preparing a meat extract, by which the redundancy of one district should supply the deficiencies of another, and as cheap a food might be procured as the vegetables grown at home. Thus Ireland and Silesia might be fed as cheaply as on the vegetable diet grown in their own countries. But to ensure the success of such a measure it is important that the medical profession, no less than the government itself, should be filled with the moral importance of their respective duties.

A discussion then ensued respecting the place of meeting for next year, when it was resolved by a large majority that it should be at Tübingen, under the presidency of Professor Hugo Mohl and Professor Bruns.

F. G. S.

#### TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

PROFESSOR Cowper, whose lectures on the Mechanical Construction of the Crystal Palace, given last year within the building, will be remembered with interest, died on Sunday last. He was for a long time connected with Mr. Applegarth in the construction of machines for calico and chintz printing, and in designing and making 'The Times' printing-machine. In these he introduced several improvements, making the self-acting inking-tables to the diagonal action of the rollers, the carrying tapes on the cylinders, &c. He had the management of Messrs. Day and Martin's large blacking manufactory, and was Professor of Manufacturing Art and Mechanics at King's College, in which capacity he carried out with great success the system of taking his pupils to the principal manufactories and great works of civil and mechanical engineering. Professor Cowper was a thoroughly honest, well intentioned man, and a good deal concerned in cases of litigation as to mechanical inventions. He was, perhaps, a little too fond of small knick-knacks of models to impress his auditory strongly with respect for his opinions; but no one ever doubted his qualification to the title of a good mechanic. He died at his residence at Kensington, aged 62.

A subscription has been commenced for a monument in Kensal Green Cemetery to the memory of Thomas Hood. Already among the names of contributors are the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Macaulay, Lord Carlisle, and Samuel Rogers. The proposal originated with some of the members of the Whittington Club, from whose circular we extract the following:—

"Many a burst of merriment has echoed above 'Hood's Comic Annual' from the lips of all classes; for many a year he cheered our Christmas firesides with racy humour, that he cheered our Christmas firesides with racy humour, that he never wearied with its frivolity, or offended with its coarseness; far and wide was he known as the poet of mirth and humour; but the higher development of his genius, and the nobler purpose of his feelings, were shown to us in such glorious hymns as 'The Song of the Shirt,' and 'The Bridge of Sighs.' Those who have read either of these poems will acknowledge that such a man deserves to have a mark upon his sleeping-place, so that it may be found without the help of a grave-yard servant; and we now earnestly solicit all who have laughed at his inimitable wit, or sighed over his human tenderness, to spare what they can in aid of a purpose which is alike praiseworthy in the living and due to the dead."

Subscriptions should be addressed to the Whittington Club, Arundel-street, Strand.

The Association for Promoting a Cheap and Uniform System of Colonial and International Postage has been lately more formally organized, and is adopting vigorous measures for promoting its views. Correspondence has been opened with foreign Governments, and auxiliary associations formed in different parts of the world. The London Society of Arts is the head-quarters of the movement, and Earl Granville is President, with

an influential Council, many of the members of which took a prominent part in the affairs of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Baron Dupin, the Commissioner for France; Chevalier de Burg, for Austria; Herr von Viebahn, for Prussia; and Don Manuel de Ysasi, for Spain, are members of the Council. We observe from the French papers that special commissioners from Berlin and Vienna have been at Paris, with a view to international postage arrangements.

The late copyright treaty between Belgium and France has elicited a remonstrance from the chief Belgian printers, and in it a curious fact has come to light. It appears that the chief religious works of the French language, technically called '*les bons livres*,' such as the works of Bossuet, Fénelon, Chateaubriand, Lamennais, and of others, were by the Belgian printers submitted to the 'censure' of their own bishops, who 'purged' them of all matter which appeared obnoxious, and thus 'purged' and authorised by the ecclesiastical dignitaries of Belgium, the said books were pirated and freely sold. The Belgian printers in their remonstrance allude to this salutary and precautionary measure, and lament the case of their poor Belgian countrymen, who henceforward will be compelled to purchase the '*bons livres*' in their original, unpurged, and obnoxious condition. Alas for the Belgians! Their free institutions and their independence have for the last twelvemonth been threatened by the French President, and now by the anti-piracy treaty of the 22nd of August he deals a terrible blow at their orthodox Catholic faith, and compels them to read the works of Bossuet and Fénelon exactly as those prelates wrote them!

At a meeting last week of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, several letters of thanks were read from gentlemen upon whom honorary fellowship had been conferred in special commemoration of the recent congress of the Archaeological Institute in that town. Presents from the Duke of Northumberland were announced. They comprise stone celts, flint arrow-heads, several bronze celts, two bronze sword-blades, one dagger, six javelin heads in bronze, two bridle-bits, four bosses, and a score of bronze pins, all of the early period. But the most valuable gifts are two mahogany cabinets, comprising nearly two thousand coins of the Greek, Roman, Carthaginian, British, and later series. Hitherto the museum in the castle was anything but rich in the primeval remains so often discovered in the north of England, but this acceptable gift renders it as rich as any provincial collection in the kingdom. Mr. Edward Spoor has very liberally presented to the Society two massive oaken iron-bound and hinged folding-doors for the entrance of the great hall of the castle, which greatly add to the picturesque effect of that ancient structure. The appearance of another volume of the Society's '*Transactions*' we hope may shortly be anticipated.

Many applications being made to the Department of Practical Art, in London, for grants to national and other schools, of copies and models to be used in instruction, the Board of Trade have published a minute to the effect that the Department shall have power to assist schools with examples for teaching drawing, on condition of applicants having to pay half the prime cost of them. On a school subscribing 1*l.*, examples of the value of 2*l.* will be given, and so on, as far as the Parliamentary grant will permit. A list of copies, models, casts, and materials will be prepared, which the Department will be authorized to distribute from the School of Practical Art at Marlborough House.

The annual meeting for the distribution of prizes at the Sheffield School of Design has been held this season under circumstances of unusual *éclat*, under the presidency of the Duke of Newcastle. After the report had been read by the honorary secretary, Mr. Wightman, an eloquent and practical address was delivered by the president on the subject of schools of design. Speeches were also made by Viscount Milton, the Mayor of Sheffield, the Vicar, the Master-Cutler, and other dignitaries.



Among the visitors was the venerable poet James Montgomery. The meeting was held in the Sheffield Music Hall. The school is in a flourishing and promising condition. It was stated that the sum of 600*l.* yearly has hitherto been granted by Government to the Sheffield School.

An energetic and amusing controversy is going on in the public papers about the chemistry of bitter beer. Aroused by the strictures of the analyst of the 'Lancet,' the manufacturers have been obtaining all manner of testimonials and certificates from eminent chemists, from Baron Liebig downwards. All agree in refuting the calumny about the adulteration with strychnine. But we observe that these analyses are all negative, the chemists only proving that strychnine is not what is used for imparting bitterness to the ale. They do not explain how the small quantity of hops used in the trade can suffice for the oceans of beer annually consumed, any more than wine-merchants can explain how more port wine is drunk in London alone than all Portugal produces. We suspect that the hue and cry about strychnine is got up to divert attention from the real culprit, quassia. As the adulteration is managed on the retailer's premises, the wisdom of dealing as near head quarters as possible is obvious.

M. Bazin, an eminent French agriculturist, has made observations in Picardy and Burgundy, which satisfy him that the potatoe disease is caused by microscopic insects which alight on the leaves in the night time, and disappear almost instantaneously on the slightest alarm, into the earth. The depredations of these insects cover the leaves with yellow spots, which turn black afterwards; and the insects also attack the root. It has been generally assumed that the malady consisted in a fungus growing on the plants; but M. Bazin is convinced that the fungus is exclusively caused by the insects. These same insects, it appears, have begun to attack melons.

Poor Mr. Whiston has been punished by the loss of three years' emoluments of his office, for his honest boldness in denouncing the abuses of the Cathedral Trusts at Rochester. This cruel fine has been levied, in spite of the charges against him having been fallen from, and himself restored to his office as Master of the Free School. Pecuniary punishment is the only implement now left to ecclesiastical inquisitors. Happily for Mr. Whiston he did not live in the days of boots and thumb-screws, with three years in a dungeon to atone for his crime. The case shows again the need of the reformation of abuses connected with Church endowments for education, a result which will be hastened by the persecution of Mr. Whiston, "for no other reason," as 'The Times' pithily remarks, "than that he has had the audacity to open one of the dusty shutters of the Chapter-house, and to let in a ray of light."

The Rev. William Jay, of Bath, many of whose writings have long been widely popular, has just resigned the pastorate of the congregational church in Bath, of which he has been minister for the extraordinary period of sixty-three years. A meeting was held on the occasion, when a retiring annuity was granted to the venerable minister. Mr. Jay's name is associated with many memorable events in the ecclesiastical affairs of this country. He was associated with the early founders of the London Missionary Society, the Bible Society, and other institutions which have since become of national importance.

Dr. Dixon has been appointed to the Irish Roman Catholic primacy in place of Dr. Cullen. So far as national education is concerned, any change must have been for the better, as the late primate was hostile to everything liberal in learning and science. Dr. Dixon is said to be a man of much erudition, but his views on the educational questions which divide the Catholic Church in Ireland are not publicly known.

Boulogne-sur-Mer newspapers record the finding, recently, at Samer, near that town, of about 100 silver pieces of Henry V. of England, bearing the inscription *Villa Calise*, and of several gold nobles or half-nobles of Philip III. of Burgundy,

Charles VI. of France, Edward III. of England, and Henry VI. of England. All these coins were buried deeply beneath an old oak.

There is a talk of having a 'Statistical Congress' of all European nations at Brussels, for the purpose of adopting a uniform system of statistical returns. The want of uniformity in such documents has often been lamented by economists; it renders comparisons between different states always difficult and sometimes impossible.

Last Monday the Free Library and Museum at Liverpool were opened to the public, a ceremony of inauguration having previously taken place, at which Mr. Littledale, the Mayor, presided. A procession took place from the Town Hall to the Library in Staten-street, when addresses were delivered appropriate to the occasion.

Dr. Jeremie, now Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, has lately received from the Hon. East India Company, and also from the members of the civil service of the three Presidencies, a present of plate, as a testimonial for his services during twenty years as Dean and Professor of Classical Literature at Haileybury College.

The original model of the Britannia Tubular Bridge over the Menai Straits has been deposited in the collection of the Polytechnic Institution in Regent-street, which has lately received various additions, which increase its attractions as a place of instructive recreation.

A memorial of the poet Wordsworth is projected, in the form of a contribution to the church now rebuilding in his native town of Cockermouth. A subscription is being made for a stained glass window in the chancel, to be filled with scripture scenes, and dedicated to the memory of the poet.

By a decree of the Spanish Government the sale of the chief works of the following French writers are interdicted in Spain: Eugène Sue, George Sand, Frédéric Soulié, Eugène Scribe, and Alexandre Dumas.

A translation into French of Mr. Macaulay's 'History of England,' by the Baron Jules de Peyronnet, is announced to appear at Paris in the course of a few days.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

HORTICULTURAL. — Oct. 16*th*. — Dr. Royle, secretary, in the chair. Miss Bolton, E. C. Seaman, Esq., J. Harris, Esq., W. J. Phelps, Esq., and Mr. Chater, of Haverhill, Suffolk, were elected Fellows. In consequence of the new regulations to grant medals and certificates of merit at the general meetings, an excellent exhibition was the result, not only of subjects sent for special competition, but also of other things. Of Green Peas there were no fewer than six dishes, five being English and one foreign. Peas were produced in considerable quantity; but every exhibition either contained one or more unripe fruit, or did not consist of the number of sorts required, and therefore they were all disqualified; nevertheless, in consideration of its being the first time, and people not appearing to have understood the regulations of the Society, the non-compliance with the regulations was overlooked on this occasion, and prizes were awarded, 1*st*, to Mr. Robertson, gr. to Sir A. Dunbar, Bart., Duffus House, Elgin; and 2*nd*, to Mr. Anderson, gr. to the Earl of Stair, at Oxenford Castle, Midlothian. The first of these exhibitions consisted of wonderfully fine fruit for the far north of Scotland. It contained Winter Nelis, Sinclair, Marie Louise, Easter Beurré, extraordinary specimens of Grosse Callabasse, each fruit measuring at least 7 inches in length; Thompson's very large Duchesse d'Angoulême, and Glout Morceau. Of foreign Peas (which it will be understood do not compete with English ones, but with other foreign Peas), Mr. Lewis Solomons sent a collection of large and exceedingly handsome fruit, to which a Banksian Medal was awarded. Messrs. Lane contributed a dish of Autumn Bergamot Peas, some Golden Drop and Blue Imperatrice Plums, and a dish of the purple Guava. — Mr. Woolley, gr. to H. B. Ker, Esq., sent Morello Cherries in good condition; and Mr. M'Ewing a

dish of Keens' Seedling Strawberries, middling-sized, but rather acid. — Mr. Story, of Dartford, exhibited samples of a seedling Apple, of a bright red colour. — From Mr. Jarvis, gr. to J. Ruck, Esq., of Croydon, came two Queen Pine-apples, each weighing 3 lbs. 12 oz.; and Mr. Povey, gr. to the Rev. J. Thornycroft, sent an old stool of Black Jamaica with two suckers on it, each carrying a ripe fruit of fair average size; it was stated that the plant which produced them had ripened off a fruit upwards of 4 lbs. weight in November last year. — Some Grapes were shown. Mr. Butcher, nurseryman, Stratford-on-Avon, received a Banksian Medal for a bunch of the Black Barbarossa, weighing 3 lbs. 9 oz. Among sorts of second rate quality this is certainly one of the very best, and it deserves a place in every house, not only on account of its large size, but also for its keeping so late in the season. Stillwell's Sweetwater, exceedingly well grown, with large plump berries almost transparent, was furnished by Mr. Hargen, gr. to R. W. Edgell, Esq., of Egham; and Mr. Davis sent a large basket of Muscats, consisting of fine bunches beautifully grown, as they always are under his management. Each of these exhibitions received a Certificate of Merit; and a similar award was also made to Mr. Spary, of Brighton, for good Black Hamburgs grown without fire-heat. — Of Orchids, a fine specimen of *Vanda carulea*, than which we know of no plant of its colour more striking at this season, was shown by Messrs. Locombe and Pince, to whom a Knightian was awarded for it, and a Banksian Medal was assigned to Mr. Woolley, for a smaller example of the same showy plant, but not quite the same variety as the former. The last-named exhibitor also sent the new white *Trichopilia albida*. The Rev. Mr. Ellis, of Hoddesdon, sent *Dendrobium flexuosum* in the way of *D. longicornu*, with white flowers striped on the lip with orange. Messrs. Lane had an *Epidendrum*, one of Mr. Skinner's importations, and apparently allied to *E. fragrans*. Of other plants, Messrs. Standish and Noble contributed a new evergreen shrub, *Skimmia japonica*, bearing a profusion of beautiful red berries, which, rising in clusters above the handsome foliage, are exceedingly attractive at this season. Along with it also came small examples coming into blossom, showing that only a short time is required to see it in all its beauty of both flower and fruit. It is believed to be hardy, but of this further proof is required. A Knightian Medal was awarded it. A charming *Gesnera*, with cherry-coloured flowers, having a pale throat, was exhibited by Mr. Glendinning, of Turnham-green. Judging from its foliage and general character, it appeared to be a cross between *G. discolor* and *purpurea*. A Certificate of Merit was awarded it. — Mr. Snow sent cut specimens of *Aralia japonica*, from a plant twelve feet high, which is at present flowering in great profusion in the open shrubbery at Earl de Grey's place, in Bedfordshire. — Mr. Cole, gr. to H. Colyer, Esq., produced *Medinilla Sieboldii* and a well-grown *Gusmania tricolor*. These, however, came too late for a prize, as did also a pretty variegated plant from Messrs. Low, of Clapton, called *Plectranthus concolor picta*: it is a hothouse plant, with tender pale-green leaves, prettily blotched with deep brown. — Mr. Francis furnished charming cut flowers of the Roses from his nursery at Hertford. — A bouquet of hardy annuals was contributed by Mr. Wrench, of London-bridge; and Mr. Mills sent a half-ripened Cucumber a yard in length, and about three inches in diameter. — From the Society's garden came, among other plants, the pretty little winter Violet Grass (*Cochlearia acaulis*), which, if sown in an American border or similar place, grows and blooms from this season up to Christmas. A little patch of it taken up and put in a saucer in water will also keep flowering a long time, rendering it an interesting plant for the drawing-room window. Along with it were *Solandra lavis*, fine examples of the useful *Sedum Sieboldii*, the Golden *Lachenalia* (*L. aurea*), a new and very handsome species, producing long spikes of bright yellow tubular flowers; two Bromeliaceous plants, a red and a white flowered kind,



from M. de Jonghe of Brussels, a small blossomed yellow Chrysanthemum called *Hendersonii*, which is valuable for its earliness, anticipating as it does the Chrysanthemum season by some weeks; a branch bearing half-ripe fruit of *Benthamia fragifera* from the conservatory, and a cut spike of the Peruvian Bark-plant (*Cinchona calisaya*), whose flowering in the garden for the first time in Europe has recently excited so much interest. Associated with these were also a collection of hardy annuals, in the shape of cut-flowers, placed in pots. Among more remarkable kinds were blooms of *Tropæolum Lobbianum*, whose brilliant orange scarlet was so striking as to attract everybody's attention; *Tageles signata*, a little-known and rather handsome kind; *Cosmos bipinnata atro-purpurea*, with purple flowers somewhat resembling those of a single Dahlia; the Zebra Mallow, a beautifully striped sort; *Phlox Drummondii*, one of the most useful annuals for autumnal decoration; *Lupinus pubescens* and *Hartwegii*, and *Calceolaria chelidonioides*, a variety introduced by I. Anderson, Esq., of Edinburgh, and which promises to be an exceedingly useful and pretty kind.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held November 2, at 2 P.M., when the special subjects of exhibition will be *Chrysanthemums* (shown in sixes, in pots not exceeding 11 inches in inside diameter); Alpine Strawberries; Celery (shown in three heads).

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Sept. 6th.—J. O. Westwood, Esq., President, in the chair. Thomas Jones Stevens, Esq., Bogotá, was elected a corresponding member, and Thomas Boyd, Esq., was elected an ordinary member of the Society. Mr. Bond exhibited a box of *Colcoptera*, from Mundarra River, 400 miles north of Sydney, including a curious *Scutiger*, two new species of *Cerapterus*, and other interesting insects. Mr. Stevens exhibited some fine bred specimens of *Callithea Sapphira* reared by Mr. Bates in Brazil. Mr. Moore exhibited some curious parasitic insects from some of the animals and birds in the Zoological Society's collection. Mr. Douglas exhibited some scarce *Lepidoptera* from the neighbourhood of Ripley, and *Bedellia somnulentella*, a rare and curious moth reared from larvæ which mined the leaves of *Convolvulus arvensis*. Mr. Weir exhibited several rare *Lepidoptera* lately caught near Tunbridge Wells. Dr. Dutton exhibited specimens of the rare *Agrotis lunigera*, taken in the Isle of Wight. Mr. E. Shepherd exhibited a new British Chilo, *C. cicatricellus*, taken near Dover, and two new Tortrices from the same place. Mr. Curtis exhibited a *Sphinx Anteus*, of which the pupa was imported into the Horticultural Society's Garden with plants from Trinidad, of which fact he founded some remarks upon the introduction of foreign species into our lists of native insects. Mr. Wilkinson exhibited some larvæ, probably those of *Tinea mascullella*, in cases of an oval convex form, found under fallen leaves on which the larvæ fed. The President called the attention of the Society to the subject of insects found impaled, stating that he recently saw a bee alive and transfixed on the spiny end of a reed, in such a position that it must have been blown there by the wind. Mr. Desvignes mentioned that he had a moth transfixed by a thorn, but in such perfect condition that he was certain no bird had touched it. Mr. Curtis and Mr. Bond, however, were of opinion that birds had impaled most of the insects found in that condition, and Mr. Waring said he had often been guided to the nests of shrikes by the impaled birds and insects in their vicinity. Mr. Curtis made some remarks on the fact, that as far as he had observed, the males of insects were much less subject to variation of colour than the females, instancing *Colias Edusa*, of which he had never seen a pale variety of the male, though a similar variety of the female was not uncommon.

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Wednesday.—Microscopical, 8½ p.m.

#### MUSIC AND DRAMA.

OUR lively 'manager-author-actor and repentant weasel,' Mr. C. Mathews, has vindicated with the courage of a Curtius the opinions expressed in his 'Lettre aux auteurs dramatiques de France.' It is there prophesied that the new international law of copyright will have a serious effect upon the staple source of our theatrical entertainments, unless the Parisians nib their pens to suit the refinements of the British market; and certainly a more pointless adaptation than that of *La Chasse au Roman* with which the LYCEUM opened on Monday, under the title of *The Mysterious Lady*, we have not for some time witnessed. It was spiritedly acted, and costumed to perfection; so that neither performers nor dressers are responsible for the noisy contest of plaudits and hisses which followed. The audience fully appreciated the prettiness and timidity of the lessee, the delicacy and ladylike bearing of Miss Oliver, the gallantry of Mr. Belton, and the ferocious chivalry of Mr. Frank Matthews. But what all these characters were aiming at it is impossible to understand, and no amount of satin and point lace will ensure the success of an unintelligible and silly plot. Though somewhat prematurely announced in the bills for repetition every evening, we are glad to see that this piece has been withdrawn. In the absence of any sterling novelty, the public will gladly welcome the revival of the comedy of *Speculation*. Mr. Planché's clever burlesque of *The Golden Pleece* was not received with the marked favour which it deserved. The audience came evidently prepared for a series of brilliant Lyceum effects, and were not satisfied with the archaeological property of a dragon car lit up with red fire. Madame Vestris performed the part of *Medea* with great vigour, and Miss St. George made a spirited, though rather juvenile *Jason*. Mr. Mathews's 'chorus' was inimitable. A new farce, entitled *The House out of Windows*, which concluded the entertainment, dispersed the audience at last in good humour. The dialogue of the characters, of whom Mr. Roxby is the chief, is carried on throughout the piece at windows and balconies, and a very amusing half-hour's plot is the result.

From Hanover we learn that the new theatre has been completed, and opened with a small piece, the words by Perglass and the music by Marschner, and followed by Goethe's *Tasso*. The building itself is very handsome in its architecture, ornamented in front with a fine portico adorned with twelve statues. The two centre figures represent Goethe and Mozart; to the right follow Schiller, Lessing, Shakspeare, Goldoni, and Sophocles; to the left, Beethoven, Carl Maria von Weber, Calderon, Molière, and Terence: the twelve statues are the work either of Hanoverian artists, or of sculptors resident in Hanover, and although not productions of high art, are still very creditable. The internal arrangements are more convenient, and the decorations superior to those of any theatre in Germany, with the exception of the opera house in Berlin. The theatre contains four rows of boxes, the three lower tiers forming in shape a lyre, and the upper a circle: in front of the lowest range of boxes (parquett logen) runs an open balcony, called a 'peron,' in which are the pleasantest seats in the house: the space devoted to the stalls is large and roomy, containing about 250 numbered places, each in the form of a comfortable arm chair, the seats of which rise by a self-acting spring the moment you stand up, so as to allow space to pass with greater convenience. The pit is small, but as the entrance-price to the third row of boxes is the same, there will be ample room allotted to the frequenters of these places. The boxes are painted outside white with gold, and inside of a dark red colour. The royal lodge occupies the centre of the first and second rows of boxes, and is decorated in the usual style with rich crimson velvet hangings, and gold fringe and tassels. The space between the rows of boxes is ornamented with portraits, in relief, of celebrated poets, musicians, actors, and singers. The place

for the orchestra is spacious enough to hold performers sufficient for any opera, but can be decreased at will. The ceiling of the theatre is white with gold, and adorned with eight paintings by Ereling, who is now occupied in designing a new drop-scene. A splendid lustre, with two hundred and eighty-eight gas jets, lights up the building. The expense of erection has been about eighty thousand dollars.

From America we learn that "the poet Bunn" is enlightening the States with a series of lectures on the drama.

General de Lwoff, aide-de-camp of the Emperor of Russia, but more distinguished as a musical composer than as a soldier, has arrived in Vienna to superintend the bringing out, at the Imperial Theatre, of a grand opera in five acts, composed by him, called *Ondine*. The General has already produced several musical works of great merit, and is the composer of the music of the Russian national hymn, which possesses considerable beauty.

M. Costi, the new director of the Italian Theatre at Paris, has got a privilege for three years, but may resign it at the end of the first or second. He is to receive from government a subvention of 4000*l.*, out of which nearly 3000*l.* will be paid to the proprietors of the house for rent.

Herr Schwind, a musical painter at Vienna, has painted a picture embodying the ideas in *Beethoven's Fantasia* for pianoforte, orchestra, and chorus.

"Lablache and the Signora Medori," says the *Leipzig Musical Gazette*, "have accepted engagements for the Italian Opera at St. Petersburg." The same paper states that Mr. Balfe is to pass the winter at Berlin, where he will write an opera.

Meyerbeer the composer is still at Spa, and so suffering is he, that he is even prevented from using the waters.

Letters from Rome mention an operatic trilogy by Raimondi, under the title of *Potiphar, Jacob, and Joseph*. Each part consists of three acts.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Rheims, October 6, 1852.

If, in the Imperial, or Kingly, or Presidential, or Red Republican year 1952 of France—if, indeed, France shall possess a separate existence at that period—a Museum of National Antiquities exists in Paris, I take it that a good specimen of a robust, and, doubtless, at that date, defunct diligence will rank as a very great curiosity. In one of these machines I rumbled along from Epernay to Rheims, wondering how I ever had courage to commit myself to their dusty *rotondes* or *intérieurs* for journeys of forty-eight hours at a spell. It is not a little strange that even where railways exist they have not entirely put down the diligence. For unless the line goes to the traveller's destination, he will be compelled to travel the entire distance in a diligence, the only difference being that on the railway it travels on the wheels of the truck on which it is placed, and when the rail ends, it is furnished with a set of wheels for the road.

But it is worth some pains and aches to see the cathedral of Rheims, and the more so as it is now very nearly restored. The whole of the gigantic façade, with the exception of the south-west tower, is renovated, and presents one of the most magnificent spectacles that can be imagined. More than any other cathedral that I remember, that of Rheims has the great merit of uniting in one glorious harmonious whole details of wondrous beauty, every feature of which has its distinct use. It is so true that another cathedral such as those which the zealous piety of our forefathers reared, will in all probability never be built again, that it behoves us to be extremely jealous in protecting those which the storms of fanaticism and the gnawing tooth of time have not destroyed. The love for modernization which is so prevalent throughout Europe, has not spared Rheims. The cathedral has been restored, but the quaint old houses which stood in front of the gigantic portals have been



destroyed. The artist will lament this, and so will the antiquary, for in one of the ancient tenements the Maid of Orleans lodged with her father, Jacques Darc, during the ceremony of anointing her sovereign with the holy oil in the cathedral. The house, of which I possess a representation, was sufficiently curious in architectural decoration to have warranted its preservation. It went by the name of *L'Anc Rayé*. There is a document extant in the National Library at Paris, by which it appears that the king defrayed the expense of entertaining the maid and her father, which amounted to twenty-four livres.

When we contemplate the magnificence and glory of this cathedral, we cannot wonder that it was chosen as the place of coronation of the French kings for many centuries. The existence of the sacred oil, which, according to the Romish legend, had been sent by a dove from heaven to the Royal convert, Clovis, in 496, and which was preserved in the contiguous abbey church of St. Remi, had doubtless considerable weight in causing Rheims to be selected for this high ceremonial, but it could only be in such a shrine as the cathedral that the pomp of the scene could be witnessed by the multitudes who crowded Rheims on these occasions. Of the many 'sacres' which this stately building has seen, assuredly that of Charles VII. must have been the most imposing, for it was performed under circumstances of so peculiar a nature, that we are not surprised at being told that it was regarded as being under the special favour of Providence. And when concluded, not the least touching part of that day's spectacle must have been the moment when, the holy rites having been performed, the maid knelt down before her monarch, and said, "Gentle king, now is fulfilled the pleasure of God, who willed that you should come to Rheims and be anointed, showing that you are the true king, and he to whom the kingdom should belong. I now wish that my gentle king should allow me to return to my father and mother, to keep my flocks and herds as before, and do all things as I was wont to do."

The revolution of 1793, which fell heavily on all things sacred, did not spare the holy ampulla in St. Remi. The beautiful church was terribly shattered, and the oil, with the vessel in which it was contained, destroyed. But with that miraculous tenacity of life which appertains to so many relics of the Romish church, a drop was found which had escaped the general destruction, which was used with great effect at the coronation of Charles X.; and we have little doubt that when the time arrives—and it is not very distant—when Napoleon *le petit* will become *le grand*, that the drop of holy oil which did duty at the 'sacre' of Charles X. will be found to have distilled many other drops for the especial benefit of France's new Emperor. The lover of Church pomp will do well to spend a Sunday at Rheims. Nowhere in France is the imposing high mass of the Romish ritual performed with greater ceremony. Rheims is the metropolitan see of the country, and the cathedral possesses a vast treasury of gorgeous robes and ecclesiastical ornaments. The good work of restoration has happily not been confined to the cathedral. The Abbey of St. Remi, little inferior in grandeur to the latter edifice, is undergoing complete repair, and the very interesting Porta Martis of the Romans is, I am informed, about to be restored, and to become once more the principal entrance gate to the town from the north. Already one of the Corinthian columns has been repaired, and shows by its exquisite proportions how beautiful the entire fabric will be when it will have passed through the hands of expert workmen.

I may mention that the best hotel here is precisely opposite the portals of the cathedral. From my window I can scan the marvellous details of the façade, comprising upwards of six hundred figures, many of them colossal, and while gazing with delight on their architectural beauties, gushes of sweet melody fall on my ear, as—

"The holy organ rolls its waves  
Of sound on roof and floor."

VIATOR.

Paris, Oct. 20th, 1852.

On the accession of the present despotic government, serious fears were entertained that it would be impossible for Literature to flourish under it. These fears have unhappily been realized. Within the last nine months the publication of works of real importance—of "books that are books," to use Bacon's expression—has been singularly restricted; they might easily be counted up on the fingers, and I question if the number would amount to a score. The situation of Literature at this present time is even more deplorable:—there is literally nothing doing in it. I have at this moment before me the official list of new publications of all kinds made during the week in France; and here are the titles of the first twenty "works" that figure in it:—'An Abridgement of Sacred History, in questions and answers for Children;' 'The Acts of the Modern Apostles, or an Account of some Modern Catholic Missions;' 'The Comic Almanac for Men about Town;' 'The Almanac of the Muses and the Graces;' 'The Town and Country Friend—a new song-book;' 'The King of Prussia's Friend—a vaudeville in two acts;' 'Ampelographie Rhenane—or a description of certain vines in the valley of the Rhine;' 'An Analysis of a Sermon delivered at Provins, by the Reverend Father Ambroise;' 'Arsène, or wealth in poverty—a book for children;' 'Arthur et Théobald—ditto;' 'On Assurances against Fire by the State;' 'The Fairy Bazaar—a present offered to the subscribers of the periodical called *Le Conseiller des Dames*;' 'Bébé—or the Dwarf of the King of Poland;' 'The Hut and the Mansion—a tale;' 'The Calendar for 1853;' 'A Cantata in honour of Prince Louis Napoleon;' 'Ceremonial of the Nuns of the Order of the Sacred Heart of Jesus;' 'The Red Chamber—a melodrama turned into verse;' 'On Workmen's Lodging Houses.' And through ten mortal pages, the list runs on in the same dreary way. After all, it is no wonder that few books are brought out, for people have left off reading. "Never," said an eminent publisher to me the other day, "do I remember so little business to be doing in books as at present:—we literally sell nothing." "Why, I should have fancied," I remarked, "that you never could have sold so many as now, for people have nothing else to read, inasmuch as few newspapers exist, and the few are fearfully insipid and dull." "It would seem so, but the contrary is the fact. Never in France did people read so little as at present." "How do you account for it?" "We are plunged into a sort of stupid lethargy, and find the exercise of the intelligence painful rather than pleasing." "Then the trade of authorship must be at a dead lock, as well as that of publishing?" "And so it is. Few authors write at all; and those who do, cannot dispose of their manuscripts." And in corroboration of the latter assertion, the gentleman related two cases which have occurred within the last week:—An eminent musical composer, musical critic, and musical writer, has only been able to obtain the paltry sum of 200 francs (8*l.* sterling) for the copy-

right of a book of between 300 and 400 pages; yet the book, in addition to considerable scientific merit, is full of sparkling anecdotes and tales,—is essentially readable; and the author of it is almost as well known, and as highly appreciated, in England and Germany as in his own country. In the second case, a member of the Académie Française,—that is, one of the possessors of the highest literary dignity which exists in France,—who has always been considered one of the most brilliant writers of the day, has not been able to dispose of a manuscript of a new work on any terms. "The public will not buy books, my dear sir, and we cannot sacrifice capital without a return," has been the song which one publisher after another has sung to this unfortunate scribe. Nor is there the slightest prospect of the early dawn of a bright day following this dismal literary darkness.

The plight to which literary men are reduced is wretched in the extreme. Hundreds of them are in the fangs of starvation; each day's existence which they pass is a sort of miracle accomplished. The rest have procured employment as commercial clerks, or in lower capacities; or have retired to their families in the country to live on charity. Newspaper writers and reporters, who were thrown out of employment by hundreds on the suppression of so many newspapers, have also had to turn their hands to all manner of things. A few days ago I met a once famous editor whose "slashing articles" used to make a great noise last year, who earnestly assured me that he could let me have any quantity of the best hay and oats on most moderate terms, with 2 per cent. discount for cash; and a clever parliamentary reporter and *feuilletoniste* of my acquaintance has turned trader in babies' cradles. Another editor whom I know boasts that he is still in what he calls "the enlightenment line," inasmuch as, though he is no longer able to enlighten the people by his lucubrations, he enlightens them by lighting the lamps; which means that he has got a place in a gas company. But the fellows who are thus provided are, after all, lucky dogs. Too many of their brethren with seedy coats and wan looks, are obliged to shun their accustomed haunts, or to borrow money to make such sad advertisements as that which has been going the round of the papers during the last few days. "A young man, formerly editor of one of the provincial newspapers, earnestly solicits any sort of employment, to enable him to maintain his young family."—whilst at least one of them, burdened with children, has, if report speaks truly, been placed in the lamentable situation of having to make the same defence as Crabbe's vagrant:—

"My crime!—this sick'ning child to feed,  
I seiz'd the food your witness saw;  
I knew your laws forbade the deed,  
But yielded to a stronger law!"

#### ERRATA.

In our paper on Lepsius's 'Letters,' p. 771, col. 3, for Tishaka read Tirhaka; p. 772, col. 1, for Sorbal read Serbal; p. 772, col. 3, for Logi read Lagi.

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Thomas Thorby, Esq.

## MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Physician—ARTHUR H. HASSALL, Esq., M.D., 8, Bennett Street, St. James's.

Surgeon—F. H. THOMPSON, Esq., 48, Berners Street.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to December 31, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5000	13 yrs. 10 mo.	683 6 8	787 10 0	6470 16 8
1000	7 years	—	157 10 0	1157 10 0
500	1 year	—	11 5 0	511 5 0

\* **EXAMPLE.**—At the commencement of the year 1841 a person aged 30, took out a policy for £1000, the annual payment for which in £21 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums £168 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 24 per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is £22 10s. per annum for each £1000) he had £157 10s. added to the policy, almost as much as the premiums paid. The premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years when the insurance is for life. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

### THE FINANCIAL YEAR of the STANDARD

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY closes on 15th November, and Assurances effected before that date will be admitted to the Division of Profits in the year 1853, securing Four Years' Bonus then, and an Additional Year's Claim at every future Division over later entrants.

INTENDING ASSURERS should lodge their proposals at the London Office, 82, King William Street, City; at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or with one of the Company's Agents.

WILLIAM THOMAS THOMSON, Manager.

PETER EWART, Resident Secretary.

EDINBURGH.

3, GEORGE STREET, (Head Office).

DUBLIN.

66, UPPER SACKVILLE STREET.

LONDON.

82, KING WILLIAM STREET.

GLASGOW.

35, ST. VINCENT PLACE.

## THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Governor—His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

Deputy-Governor—The Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

Chairman of the London Board—The Right Honourable the Earl of Aberdeen.

THE DIRECTORS of the STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY request attention to the high position in which the Company stands in public favour, the successful results of the business, and the liberality of its dealings.

## RESULTS—1851.

Number of Proposals for Assurance made to the Directors .. 1023

Number of Proposals for Assurance accepted .. 822

Other Life Transactions proposed and accepted .. 40

Total accepted .. 862

Amount of Sums proposed for Assurance .. £574,618 0 6

Amount of Sums for which New Policies have been issued .. 467,499 8 1

Corresponding Annual Premiums .. 15,240 2 11

Annual Income .. 180,176 13 8

Amount of Claims by Death .. 51,952 3 11

## NEW BUSINESS—1841 to 1851.

1842 and 1843—New Assurances .. 600,547 1 5

1844 and 1845 .. 833,407 12 10

1846 and 1847 .. 812,257 12 9

1848 and 1849 .. 825,236 9 6

1850 and 1851 .. 976,646 18 7

New Assurances .. £4,048,095 15 1

Annual Average for Ten Years .. £404,809 11 6

Since 1841 the Company have Assured, it will be perceived, upwards of Four Millions of Pounds sterling—

£1,802,625 in the first five years, and

£2,245,470 in the second period of five years,

Or, on an average for ten years, above £400,000 per annum.

## DIVISION OF PROFITS.

The Profits of the Company are ascertained every five years, and additions, by way of Bonus, have been made to the Policies at four periods, 1835, 1840, 1845, 1850. The following are examples:—

Date of Policy.	Sum in Policy.	Bonus Additions.	Together.
1825	£1000	£873 0 0	£1873 0 0
1828	1000	729 0 0	1729 0 0
1831	1000	585 0 0	1585 0 0
1834	1000	441 0 0	1441 0 0
1837	1000	309 10 0	1309 10 0
1840	1000	203 0 0	1203 0 0
1843	1000	121 10 0	1121 10 0
1846	1000	52 10 0	1052 10 0

## SURRENDER OF BONUS FOR VALUE IN CASH.

According to this method, if the person assured does not wish the sum in his policy increased, he may surrender the Bonus, and take its value in cash; that is, instead of the amount being paid with the sum assured at death, such a sum will now be given as the Directors may consider equivalent to it in present value.

In the case of the policy of £1000 opened before 15th November, 1825, for instance, as quoted above, assuming the party to have assured at the age of 35, and to be now 60 last birth-day, the sum of £463 7s. 9d. would be given for a surrender of the Bonus of £873, while the policy will continue to receive its share of profits, at future investigations, as if the surrender had not taken place.

## APPLICATION OF THE BONUS TO THE EXTINCTION OF ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

A person, aged 45, who assured in 1830 for £1000, has received Bonus Additions to the extent of £633. He pays a premium of £37 7s. 6d., but wishes to apply the Bonus in extinction of the annual payment. His age being 65 last birth-day, he can redeem his future premiums by surrendering £578 14s. 9d. of his Bonus, leaving £54 5s. 3d. to be paid along with the sum assured at death, and will receive further additions at each investigation he may survive.

## SELECT ASSURANCES.

The public are indebted to this Company for the introduction of new and important benefits in the practice of Life Assurance. A Standard Policy which has existed for five years is admissible to a class of "SELECT ASSURANCES;" and in that class all Policies are unchallengeable on any ground of objection whatever. The Directors have also made provision in connexion with that class, for relieving the Assured who have no prospect of going abroad, from the usual irksome restrictions as to residence beyond the limits of Europe. Persons lending money on the security of Policies, Marriage Trustees, and, in short, all who rely on the security afforded by Life Assurance, cannot fail to appreciate these new and important advantages.

A full report on the late investigation of the Company's affairs and Division of Profits can be obtained by application at the London Office, 82, King William Street, City; at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at the Agencies of the Company.

WILLIAM THOMAS THOMSON, Manager.

PETER EWART, Resident Secretary.

EDINBURGH.

3, GEORGE STREET, (Head Office).

DUBLIN.

66, UPPER SACKVILLE STREET.

## NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, for MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE, ANNUITIES, &c

48, Gracechurch Street, London.

SAMUEL HAYHURST LUCAS, Esq., Chairman.

CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq., M.P., Deputy-Chairman.

Consulting Actuary—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.

## EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT FOR 1851:

"In the year ending the 20th November, 1851, 1231 Policies have been issued; the Annual Premiums on which amount to £18,498 8s. 6d.

"Since the establishment of the Institution in December, 1835, 13,729 Policies have been effected, and the Annual Income is £189,240 2s.

"The balance of receipts over the disbursements in 1851 is £114,623 3s. 9d.; and the Capital is now £738,492 18s. 4d."

The forthcoming Quinquennial Division of Profits will be made up to the 20th November next, and all who effect Assurances before that time will participate in the profits which may accrue to such policies.

By a recent Act of Parliament the Directors are empowered to grant Loans to Members on the security of their Policies to the extent of their value.

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st October, are reminded that the same must be paid within 30 days from that date.

The Directors' Report for 1851 may be had on application at the Office, or of the Agents in the country.

Sept. 16, 1852. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

## ALFRED LIFE ASSURANCE and DEFERRED ANNUITY ASSOCIATION, No. 7, Lothbury, London.

Established 1839.

## TRUSTEES.

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## DIRECTORS.

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Deputy-Chairman—WILLIAM JAMES MAXWELL, Esq.

G. Ives Raymond Barker, Esq. | William James Lancaster, Esq.

George Frederick Dickson, Esq. | Charles Snell Paris, Esq.

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Samuel Gurney Fry, Esq. | Lieutenant-Colonel Tulloch.

Life Assurances of every description can be effected with this Association.

Deferred Annuities granted with options upon very favourable terms.

J. W. HAMPTON, Secretary.

## THE INVESTMENT of MONEY with the

NATIONAL ASSURANCE and INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION, which was established in May, 1844, secures equal advantages to the surplus Capital of the affluent, and the provident Savings of the industrial classes of the community, and affords an opportunity for realizing the highest rate of interest yielded by first-class securities, in which alone the Funds are employed.

Monies deposited with the Association, for Investment, are exempt from liabilities on account of life contingencies, as well as the expenses of management, which are borne by the Life Department, in consideration of the business brought to it by investment transactions; therefore, Depositors enjoy the entire profits yielded by their Capital free from deduction of any kind—an advantage which no other Institution, either Public or Private, holds forth, or can afford, to its members.

Interest or Dividend, is payable half yearly, in January and July.

## CAPITAL STOCK, £100,000.

The Capital Stock is altogether distinct and separate from the Depositors' Stock in the Investment Department. It constitutes, with the Premium Fund, a guarantee for the engagements of the Association, and has been provided in order to render the security of the Assured complete.

## LIFE DEPARTMENT.

This Department embraces a comprehensive and well-regulated system of Life Assurance, with many valuable and important improvements.

Full information and prospectuses may be obtained, on application at the Head Office of the Association, or to the respective Agents throughout the United Kingdom.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

NATIONAL ASSURANCE and INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION,

7, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

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